THE TIMES

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TODAY 10P

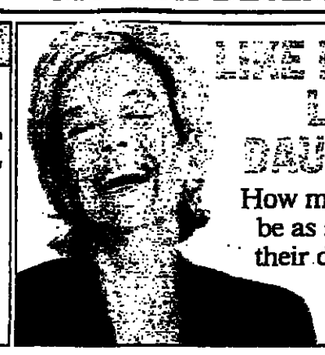


TELEVISION

WHY VIEWERS ARE DESERTING THE BBC

William Rees-Mogg

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LIKE MOTHER LIKE DAUGHTER

How mothers can be as stylish as their daughters

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UNDER THE SKIN OF SPORT

KLINSMANN FAILS TO LIFT THE GLOOM

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TODAY 10P

Mowlam pleads for restraint

Ulster peace on knife edge after killings

BY MARTIN FLETCHER AND AUDREY MAGEE

MO MOWLAM, the Northern Ireland Secretary, begged for restraint yesterday after a Roman Catholic was shot dead in retaliation for the murder of Billy Wright, the Loyalist Vounteer Force leader.

Masked LVF gunmen shot Seamus Dillon, a doorman, and injured three other Catholics, including a 14-year-old boy, in an attack on the Dungannon Hotel in Co Tyrone.

The small but ruthless LVF, which rejects the ceasefire, warned of more attacks in a statement yesterday saying: "This attack and future attacks lay squarely at the feet of republicans."

Mr Dillon, 45, was a former IRA terrorist who served a sentence for murder, but police said last night he was probably not the primary target. The gunmen's real intention may have been to open fire in the hotel disco, packed with more than 300 teenagers. "We could have had a massacre of unimaginable scale," one security source said.

Police were on high alert and troops were back on the streets in flashpoint areas of mid-Ulster as the killings left Northern Ireland on a knife edge. As well as the possibility of further revenge attacks involving the LVF and the Irish National Liberation Army (INLA), it was feared that the larger paramilitary organisations could be sucked back into violence.

Dr Mowlam said the province faced dangerous times, and called on all those with influence to ensure the "vicious and senseless" violence ended immediately. She spoke to leaders of all the parties attending the peace talks, and said they were united in calling for calm. "Does anyone seriously believe that this is a step forward for the people of Northern Ireland?" Dr Mowlam asked. "The peace process offers Northern Ireland the only opportunity for stability and economic progress for more than a generation."

The LVF attack occurred late on Saturday night, hours after Wright, nicknamed "King Rat", was shot dead by INLA inmates inside the Maze prison near Belfast.

As loyalists rioted in Wright's home town of Portadown, setting fire to a dozen vehicles and throwing petrol bombs, a red car drove into the car park of the Dungannon Hotel about 15 miles away. It is believed one of two masked occupants opened fire when doormen approached the vehicle, spraying them and the building with at least 18 shots. Police sources said they believed that the gunmen came from Portadown.

Mr Dillon was sentenced to life for murder in 1972 but released in 1994. Another doorman was seriously ill in hospital with chest wounds, while a third was in a stable condition. The teenager, Martin Carolan, who was collecting glasses inside, was said to be stable.

A police investigation was meanwhile launched at the Maze to determine how INLA inmates managed to acquire guns, establish Wright's movements within the prison and then climb over a roof to kill him. All INLA prisoners were moved to another H-block, locked up and questioned while forensic experts combed their former cells.

Adam Ingram, Northern Ireland's security minister, was cutting short his Christmas holiday to meet the chief executive of the Northern Ireland prison service, the governor of the Maze and other top officials. This was the second big embarrassment at the Maze this month. An IRA prisoner, Liam Averill, escaped dressed as a women during a Christmas party.

Ken Maginnis, the Ulster Unionist Party's security spokesman, said the killing of Mr Dillon would hasten the IRA's return to violence. He accused Dr Mowlam of encouraging terrorists through constant "appeasement" of the IRA.

Dr Mowlam again rejected Mr Maginnis's calls for her to step down. "If I thought my resignation would help the peace process or was justified, I would have no trouble doing it. I can assure you this is not a fun job. But I think it would be a mistake," she said.

Magnet for extremists, page 2
Leading article, page 20

PETER NICHOLLS



Heather Hallett, QC, in the cloisters near her office. She takes over in the new year

New Bar chief calls for legal aid limit in important trials

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE first woman to lead the Bar is calling for curbs to control the costs in high-profile criminal trials which absorb more than £100 million of legal aid funds a year.

Heather Hallett, QC, who takes over as chairman of the 8,000-member private practice Bar on January 1, favours a new system of contracts to bring under control the huge costs in cases such as the Maxwell trial. The legal aid fund has paid out more than £14 million in defence fees for the trial.

She said that the Bar Council is set to announce a task force, under an independent chairman from outside the profession, which will look at a contracts system. Under this, barristers would tender for defence work at a fixed rate, quoted in advance.

As part of such a system, already in use by the Serious Fraud Office for its prosecution work in big fraud trials, barristers would be monitored and the costs run up in a case checked at regular intervals, she said.

The Lord Chancellor has *particularly targeted the high-cost* legal aid cases which consume a disproportionate amount of the legal aid budget. In July, launching an attack on "fat cat" lawyers, Lord Irvine said that the top 1 per cent of jury trials absorbed about 24 per cent of the total £566 million criminal legal aid budget.

But Miss Hallett, 48, rebutted allegations of "fat cat" earnings and said that most criminal practitioners, such as herself, were far from being "fat cats".

A mother of two sons aged 15 and 17 who is married to another QC, she is the first working mother to take over at the helm of the Bar Council. She came from a modest background in Hampshire, the daughter of a policeman who managed to enter the profession with the help of a local authority discretionary grant.

"For the vast majority of the Bar doing publicly-funded work, the idea of a fat fee is as much a dream as winning the lottery," Miss Hallet said. "The figures quoted [for legal aid fees paid to barristers in a particular year] are out of context, and without the riders that these are not annual salaries: they usually represent several years' work."

She accepts, though, that there is a problem with the few high-cost criminal cases which involve "*thousand of hours of* preparation work to prepare and where the quantity of material is enormous".

> "For most of the Bar, the idea of a fat fee is as much a dream as winning the lottery"

The task force would also examine jury trials in big fraud cases and whether significant savings could be made by replacing trial by jury with trial by a judge and specialist assessors, as proposed by Lord Roskill.

Another proposal is to extend the Bar's scheme for a band of fixed fees, known as its "graduated fees" scheme, which at present covers all trials of up to ten days. This, she said, could be widened to include the middle swath of trials of up to 20 days.

More benefits may be taxed

Government benefit reviews could lead to a further £15 billion a year of welfare payments being taxed.

Child benefit is a key candidate because it is not otherwise means-tested. Benefits geared to disability, such as the disability living allowance and attendance allowance, are also targets... Pages 21, 48

Two laureates

Ted Hughes's new working of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* is the most exciting collection of poems in English written in recent times, says Melvyn Bragg ..... Page 18

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Hong Kong culls all its chickens

BY JAMES PRINGLE

HONG KONG will today begin the slaughter of 1¼ million chickens — the entire population of the territory — as part of efforts to contain the mysterious "bird flu" which has infected 12 people, killing four, and prompted fears of a pandemic.

The killing and burning of chickens from a thousand markets and stalls will last about 24 hours and be followed by a mass clean-up campaign, Dr Margaret Chan, Hong Kong's director of health, said yesterday.

The latest step to try to contain the outbreak comes after the disclosure at the weekend that two more people, a boy aged one and a 72-year-old man, were believed to have the disease.

Hong Kong's administration also reported that a 60-year-old woman who died last Tuesday was found to have had the flu. That brought the number of confirmed cases to 12. Two children, a boy and a girl, both aged three, were removed from the suspect list.

The slaughter announcement followed the closure yesterday of the big Cheung Sha Wan poultry wholesale market in Kowloon. Health authorities discovered that a large number of chickens at the market had died suddenly, although it had already been disinfected.

Workers wearing masks began cleaning and sterilising the area again yesterday. Police on duty near by were also wearing masks.

A few hours earlier, a chicken farm in Hong Kong's New Territories was declared *infected after samples tested* positive for the H5N1 avian virus.

Avian flu fear, page 13

Chemicals alert after derailment

BY JOANNA BALE

ABOUT a thousand people were evacuated from their homes last night during an operation to remove a derailed railway wagon carrying a dangerous chemical.

The wagon was carrying 60 tonnes of liquid vinyl chloride monomer to the European Vinyl Corporation at Barry Docks, South Wales, when it was derailed early yesterday near its destination at Cadaxton station.

According to medical surveys of plastics industry workers, high exposure to the chemical can cause cancer, but South Wales police said that there had been no spillage and that there was no immediate risk to public safety. John Cunningham, EVC's commercial *manager, said the evacuation* was a precautionary measure.

British Transport Police launched an inquiry into the derailment.

Mobile phones used as trackers

BY MICHAEL EVANS AND NIGEL HAWKES

MOBILE PHONES can be used as tracking devices to pinpoint users within a few hundred yards, according to a report yesterday.

Sonntags Zeitung, published in Zurich, said Swiss police had been secretly tracking mobile phone users through a telephone company computer.

"Swisscom [the state-owned telephone company] has stored data on the movements of more than a million mobile phone users and can call up the location of all its mobile subscribers down to a few hundred metres and going back at least half a year," the paper reports, adding: "When it has to, it can exactly reconstruct, down to the minute, who met whom, where and for how long for a confidential tête-à-tête."

Swisscom officials confirmed the practice but said information about mobile phone customers was handed over only on production of a court order. The newspaper claimed that about 3,000 base stations in Switzerland tracked the location of mobile phones as soon as they were switched on.

Renato Walti, an investigating magistrate in Zurich who specialises in organised crime, told the paper: "This is a very efficient investigation tool."

Toni Stadelmann, head of Swisscom's mobile phone division, is quoted as saying: "We release the movement profile of mobile telephone customers on a judge's order."

In Britain, six mobile phone companies are understood to have arrangements with law enforcement agencies to provide coding information on invidual phones used by suspected terrorists or serious

Continued on page 2, col 5

Public hotline for when it's good to talk to MI5



BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A TELEPHONE hotline for the public to contact MI5 with offers of assistance is to be set up early in the new year.

The number is intended to provide a confidential link into MI5 for anyone in a highly sensitive position who could give key information about terrorist groups or criminal organisations. The decision to go ahead with a hotline followed a considerable degree of internal anguish at MI5 because of the risk of encouraging the wrong sort of caller.

"The phone line is not supposed to provide members of the public with a number to report suspicious packages or suspicious neighbours: that's a matter entirely for the police, and the Anti-Terrorist Branch already operates its own hotline," a security source said. The number will be available by February.

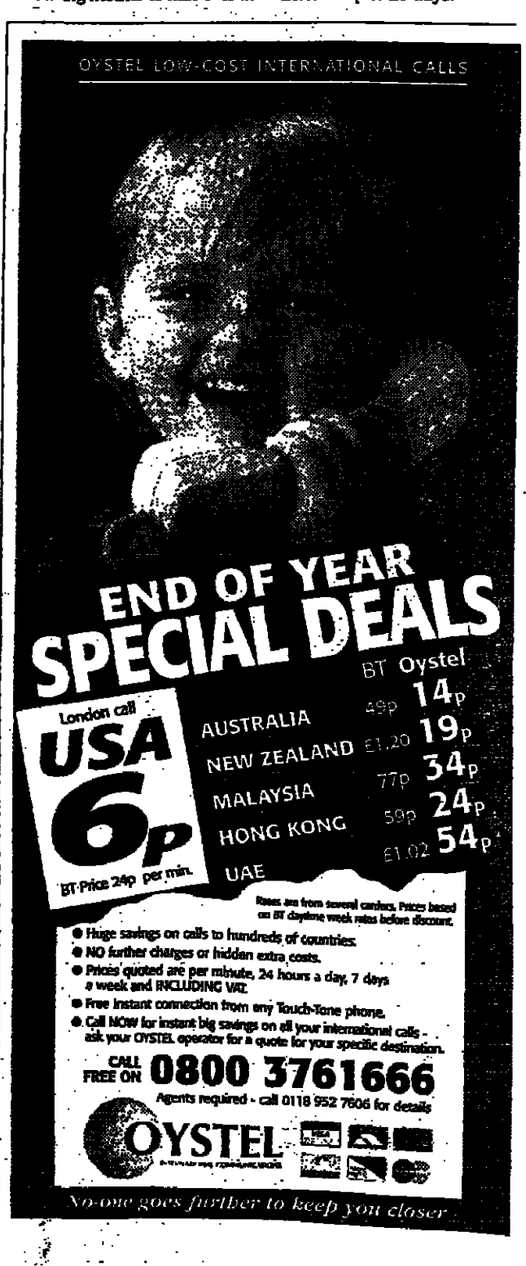
MI5's latest venture is not another example of greater openness. The purpose of the hotline is operational. MI5 works long term and there is every expectation that a prospective agent who suddenly feels it might be good to talk will phone the hotline with a tip that could lead to an intelligence breakthrough.

MI5 published a postal address for the first time in 1993 when it brought out the first edition of its information booklet and the result was, eventually, encouraging.

The vast proportion of the initial correspondents were either academics, seeking answers to historical questions, curious members of the public and the inevitable "deranged" scribe writing in green ink — not a reference, of course, to the Chief of the Secret Intelligence Service ("C") at the MI6 building across the Thames who, by tradition, writes in green ink.

MI5 also studied their counterparts in Europe who have operated hotlines for some time, with varying degrees of success. Stephen Lander, Director-General of the Security Service, plans to set up a special department to handle the calls and serious callers with potentially useful information will be followed up carefully.

No extra money will be given to MI5 for the hotline service. The new facility will be funded through the existing budget which is less than £150 million a year.



هكذا من الأصل

Violent extremists will still rally to group of ruthless dissidents who reject Stormont talks

Wright's death will not stop loyalist terror

By Martin Fletcher and Nicholas Watt

BILLY WRIGHT is dead, but the Loyalist Volunteer Force will not die with him. With the two main loyalist paramilitary organisations observing the ceasefire, his dissident group will remain a magnet for Northern Ireland's plentiful supply of violent sectarian extremists who consider the Stormont peace talks a sell-out. It has a clear and unchallenged niche in the market.

Wright was personally responsible for at least 25 killings in a reign of terror against innocent Catholics and republican opponents as he took the old loyalist dictum of "Any Taig Will Do" to new depths.

Security sources measure the LVF's membership in scores, not hundreds, and it does not possess a huge arsenal, but it is unusually ruthless even by Northern Ireland's standards. It considers any Catholic a fair target, not just republicans, and attacks without provocation.

This year alone it has murdered two Gaelic football officials, and may have been involved in the killing of a Catholic teenager, Bernadette Martin, as she lay in bed with her Protestant boyfriend. Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, outlawed the LVF in June.

The Irish National Liberation Army, which killed Billy Wright, and the Loyalist Volunteer Force, which retaliated by attacking the Glengannon Hotel in Dungannon, are small splinter groups that never signed up to the ceasefire. The IRA and the two major loyalist paramilitary organisations are not — as yet — directly involved, and all three considered Wright a pariah.

Having successfully retaliated, the LVF may feel its honour is now satisfied, though it did warn ominously of "future attacks" yesterday. Since the peace process began in earnest, there have been several examples of loyalists and republicans staring into the abyss which they had inhabited for the previous quarter century and recoiling.

The big danger is the perception that the Stormont peace talks are going nowhere, which plays into the hands of extremists on both sides. After three months the participating parties have yet to agree even on the issues to be resolved, and Unionists and Sinn Fein are still not talking to each other.

That is making it difficult for Gerry Adams to keep hardline republicans on board. Many never agreed with his peace strategy in the first place, several senior IRA and Sinn Fein members recently resigned, and the sister of hunger striker Bobby Sands has helped set up a group opposed to Sinn Fein's participation in the talks.

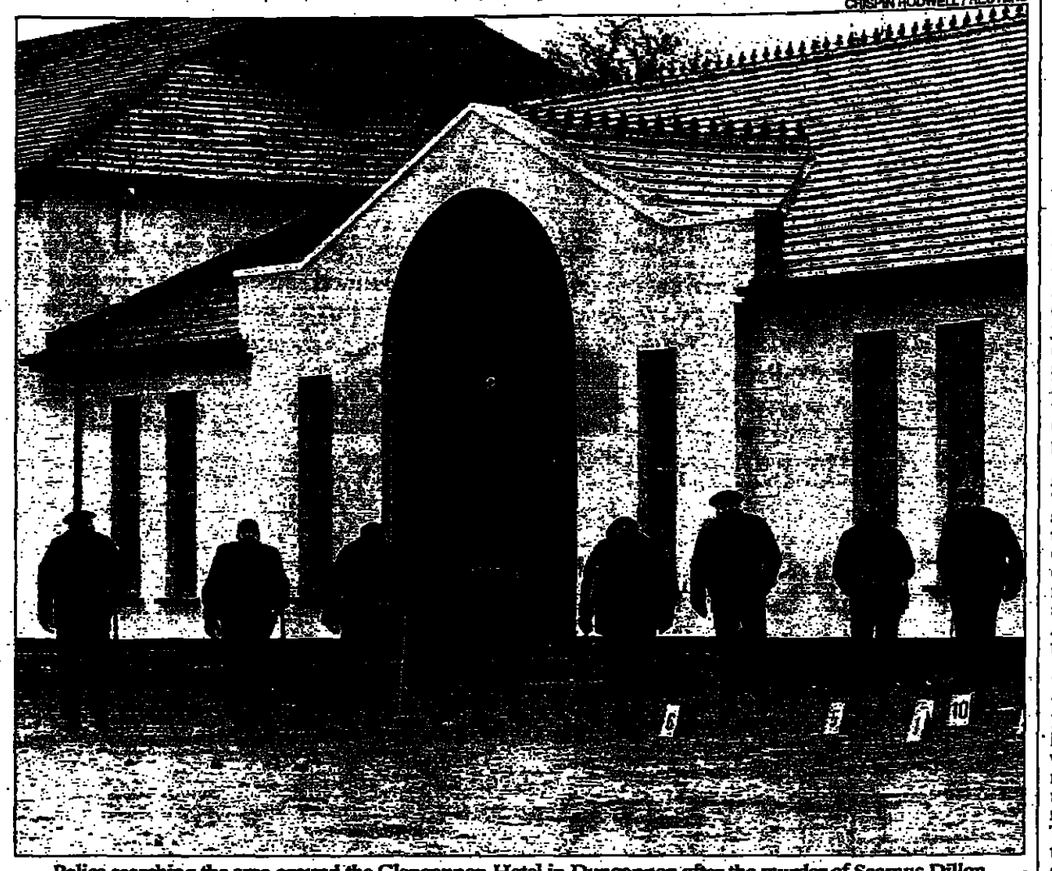
In the eyes of Unionists and loyalists the peace process has produced nothing except government concessions to republicans. David Ervine, leader of the Progressive Unionist Party, said yesterday: "Violence from one side merely fuels a sense of retribution required from the other, and the cycle begins and in many ways seems never ending."

Mr Ervine has declared that the PUP may not return to Stormont when the talks resume on January 12. Even in the mainstream Ulster Unionist Party there is widespead discontent. Four of its ten MPs want the party to withdraw from the talks.

Dr Mowlam yesterday acknowledged the talks' slow pace but urged all parties to "grasp the realities in front of us". The peace process, she said "offers Northern Ireland the only opportunity for stability and economic progress for more than a generation".

Leading article, page 21

CRISPIN RODWELL / REUTERS



Police searching the area around the Glengannon Hotel in Dungannon after the murder of Seamus Dillon



The murder of Wright, left, by republican gunmen was followed by the loyalist killing of Seamus Dillon

Adams's US pulling power

From Ian Brodie in Washington

THE fund-raising power of Gerry Adams in America is reflected in new figures submitted by Sinn Fein to the US Justice Department.

They show that Friends of Sinn Fein Inc, the Irish republicans' organisation in the United States, took in $460,400 (£279,000) in the six months between May and October. The amount brings the total raised in the US since Mr Adams was first granted a visa by President Clinton in March 1995 to $2.1 million (£1.2 million).

The latest period included the visit last September of Mr Adams and Martin McGuinness as leaders of a Sinn Fein delegation that had two important missions. One was to raise funds and the other was to convince American politicians and media that Sinn Fein was committed to the peace process after the IRA's second declaration of a ceasefire.

The high point was a well-attended fund-raiser for Irish-Americans that followed Mr Adams's press conference at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel in New York.

The record by far is still the $1.1 million (£647,000) raised during Mr Adams's visit to America in 1995 when the IRA was observing its first ceasefire.

Articulate thug who killed innocents without mercy

■ Billy Wright was more than just the ugly face of hardline loyalism. His influence in Ulster was sometimes crucial, Nicholas Watt reports

HE MAY have looked like a pure thug with his close-cropped hair and tattoos but Billy Wright became a formidable terrorist leader because he was highly intelligent and able to articulate his belief that random sectarian killings undermined the IRA.

It was a view shared by the last Government. Conservative ministers repeatedly said that one of the factors that pushed the IRA towards its 1994 ceasefire was the pressure from its own community in the wake of the upsurge in loyalist violence. Wright spelt out his thinking in a newspaper interview in 1994 a few days after the loyalist ceasefire. Speaking as "King Rat", he said: "These actions brought home to Catholics that the IRA was the source of all violence. They knew that if the IRA did something, the Catholic community would suffer."

Two attacks by Wright and his henchmen when he headed the Mid-Ulster brigade of the Ulster Volunteer Force provided a chilling illustration of how he coupled random sectarian attacks with clinical operations against terrorist opponents. On the night of Sunday, March 3, 1991, Wright led a team that shot dead three IRA terrorists outside a pub in Cappagh, Co Tyrone. Wright's four-man UVF team opened fire on their car as it drew up outside Boyle's bar in the staunchly republican village. The shootings were a devastating blow to the IRA, because Wright managed to wipe almost the entire leadership of the hardline East Tyrone brigade. A fourth victim was not a member of the IRA.

Three weeks later Wright's unit murdered two teenage Catholic girls in a mobile shop in Lurgan, Co Armagh, in one of the most brutal sectarian killings of the Troubles. Eileen Duffy, 16, and Katrina Rennie, 19, were gunned down as they stood behind the counter of the shop on the Catholic Drumbeg housing estate. Two gunmen also murdered Brian Frizell, 29.

By the summer of 1994, as the IRA and UVF edged towards their ceasefires, Wright killed a pregnant mother in front of her children. On the night of Saturday, August 6, Wright's unit burst into a small house in the remote village of Greencastle, Co Tyrone, and shot Kathleen O' Hagan, 38, in her bedroom. As she died, she was cradled by her four sons. Wright said he had also intended to murder Mrs O'Hagan's husband, Patrick, a convicted terrorist.

Wright initially supported the loyalist ceasefire but by 1996 he had become a diehard opponent because he was convinced that the peace process was appeasing Sinn Fein and the IRA. He played a leading role in stoking up the disturbances at Drumcree in July 1996. At the height of the disturbances he ordered the murder of Michael McGoldrick, an innocent taxi driver, and brought a reinforced JCB digger to Drumcree with a tank full of petrol he was planning to spray at police lines. An intervention by David Trimble managed to stop a bloodbath.

Wright's behaviour at Drumcree, coupled with his opposition to the loyalist ceasefire, led to his expulsion from the UVF and a warning to leave Northern Ireland within 72 hours or face death. He defied the order, going on to set up the Loyalist Volunteer Force, and became something of a media celebrity in Northern Ireland, taunted former terrorist colleagues in television and newspaper interviews.

Rebel MEPs challenged to do decent thing and resign

By Nicholas Watt, Political Correspondent

THE Labour leadership last night challenged two rebel MEPs who have threatened to stand as protest candidates to "do the decent thing" and resign from the party.

In a blunt message to Ken Coates and Hugh Kerr, a senior Labour source dismissed the two as known troublemakers and said: "If they don't agree with the party they should leave."

The Labour source spoke out after Mr Coates, the MEP for Nottinghamshire North and Chesterfield, and Mr Kerr, the MEP for Essex West and Hertfordshire East, announced that they planned to fight the next Euro-election in 1999 as protest candidates.

In a letter to his constituents Mr Coates said that he was "heartily ashamed" of new Labour's plans to cut welfare benefits. Mr Coates also criticised the Government's plans to introduce proportional representation for the Euro-election with a system that will abolish individual constituencies in favour of multi-seat regions.

Mr Kerr dismissed Tony Blair as a "conservative with a small c" who was determined to lead a national unity government. He also predicted that up to six sitting Labour MEPs could stand as independents.

The rebels have notified José Maria Gil-Robles, the President of the European Parliament, that they expect either to be expelled or to resign from the 62-strong Labour group in Strasbourg before the next election.

Mr Coates insisted last night that he had no intention of resigning from the party, signalling that he is waiting to be expelled. He said: "Why should I do the decent thing and resign? Why don't they do the decent thing and give us back our Labour Party? It has been taken over by aliens."

Mobile phone trackers

Continued from page 1

criminals, but there are legal and procedural restrictions. As in all intelligence and police work, according to one intelligence source, technical surveillance is carried out only for what the source described as "focused" operations on key individuals.

"Some people might think the law enforcement authorities are tracking every mobile phone user, but that is complete nonsense. We have to have our antennae out to get the critical leads, but once we've got a lead we focus on that individual and a lot of effort goes into filtering out extraneous information."

Earlier this year there was a row in Australia when police admitted that they were using the mobile phone network to keep track of known criminals. Signals emitted by the criminals' phones and picked up by local base stations were being used to pinpoint people, providing "a very valuable investigative tool", according to Sergeant Frank Helsen of the New South Wales Police Service Crime Data Centre.

The method worked even if the phones were not in use, since they emit signals automatically every half hour. Data collected by the phone companies whose base stations pick up these calls was being reconstructed to pinpoint the whereabouts of the phone users.

Chris Puplick, the chairman of the New South Wales Council for Civil Liberties, protested that walking around with a mobile phone was "like walking around with a beeper or an implanted transmitter".

In the Australian case, the mobile phone companies said that they did not routinely keep the data from phones but would do so if a warrant were issued in advance. The police service declined to say how often this happened.

In the Swiss case, it appears that the data is automatically recorded.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mandy Allwood gives birth

Mandy Allwood, whose eight-baby pregnancy ended in miscarriage at 17 weeks last year, has given birth to a healthy child. Ms Allwood, 32, who just over a year ago caused controversy when she refused selective abortion and tried to have her octuplets, gave birth to a 7lb 5oz baby on Saturday evening at King's College Hospital, south London.

Her partner Paul Hudson said last night they were both "completely overwhelmed", although he would not reveal the sex of the baby as the couple have been signed up exclusively to a national daily newspaper. He said: "We are absolutely over the moon. After everything we've been through it's all just fantastic."

Meningitis hope

Doctors at St Mary's Hospital in London are investigating whether a vaccine against meningitis developed in Cuba might be used to immunise millions of British children. The vaccine was developed in the mid 1980s, after a series of outbreaks of meningitis on the island.

Leak inquiry

The social security department is investigating how confidential information about a benefits claimant were leaked to the press. The probe comes amid concerns from disability groups that they are being targeted with "black propaganda" in the controversy over benefits cuts.

Nursery warning

A quarter of nursery classes are over-crowded and putting children's development at risk, according to research by the National Union of Teachers. It has called for a legal limit on nursery group sizes in line with new laws to keep classes for five, six and seven-year-olds to a maximum of 30.

Fresh air plans

The European Joint Aviation Authority plans new controls on air-conditioning in aircraft cabins, adding to measures requiring airlines to provide a fresh supply of air six times every hour. The action follows reports that passengers are being exposed to stale air and, as a result, more germs.

Hercules hitch

A new transport aircraft for the RAF, the Hercules C130J, which is due in service in the next 12 months at a cost of £1.8 billion, is causing concern because of reports that the loading ramp will be able to bear only 26,000lb — half the capacity of the existing C130K, which is currently in use.

Guilty burglars

Burglers who left an 80-year-old man for dead when he disturbed them had an attack of conscience and raised the alarm from a call box. Eric Harding from Winchester had been hit about the head with a crow bar. His condition is "comfortable". Two people have been arrested.

Glued to TV

Television has become a social glue that binds the modern family together, according to a Channel 4 documentary on viewing habits to be screened tonight. Some 42 per cent of those questioned for *The Remote Controllers* said that the whole family watched television together every day.

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هكذا من الإصل

History goes out of the window

Peter Birkett on how a cultural homecoming was halted by modern tastes for a Chinese

IT WAS a triumph for culture buffs when their town won a long campaign to bring back a magnificent Georgian shop-front that had been taken away to an American museum. Their plan was to restore it to its original location in Market Place in Faversham, Kent. But their problems were far from over.

In a clash of tastes, the townspeople who like the look of an elegant bow-windowed facade are at odds with those who like Peking duck with all the trimmings. The shop is now a Chinese restaurant and restoring the large window would reduce the numbers who can dine there.

Indeed, Jimmy Yu, the owner of the China Village, has let it be known that the old-fashioned frontage dating from 1790 is rather too old-fashioned for a small-town eatery serving Peking and Szechuan cuisine to a predominantly youthful and not necessarily aesthetic clientele. The impasse means that Dr Arthur Percival, director of the Faversham Society and the prime mover behind the facade's return, has had to arrange for its temporary storage in five sections at a local builder's yard.

He says: "Mr and Mrs Yu are the nicest of couples and they run the most excellent restaurant. The very last thing we wish to do is to fall out with them over this. But it does remain our dearest hope that eventually we can persuade them and reinstate the facade. It is Faversham's equivalent of the return of the Elgin Marbles."

The window was once attached to a baker's shop. It was removed in 1932 when it was sold for £265 and shipped out to give the Americans an idealised image of Olde Englande. Displayed in the Art Institute of Chicago, it was described as "a masterpiece of Georgian elegance" in Dan and Willmott's definitive architectural work, *English Shopfronts Old and New*.

The Faversham Society has long nursed a dream of bringing it home. When they discovered that the museum was proposing to sell it for an estimated £12,000, they decided to apply for lottery cash to buy it.



How Market Place in Faversham looks today. Arthur Percival, right, outside the China Village restaurant, wants to restore the window, below

Then came a fine example of transatlantic co-operation. The museum made a surprise offer to donate it free of charge. Sotheby's in New York agreed to meet the shipping costs and the Department of Trade and Customs and Excise waived import duty and VAT.

However, approaches from Dr Percival and representatives of the society's architects have failed to convince Mr and Mrs Yu of any advantage in changing the existing facade of the shop which they bought four years ago and converted into their successful 50-seater restaurant. They say reinstatement would force them to reduce the number of tables from thirteen to nine and they would be reluctant to close for building work that would take at least a week.

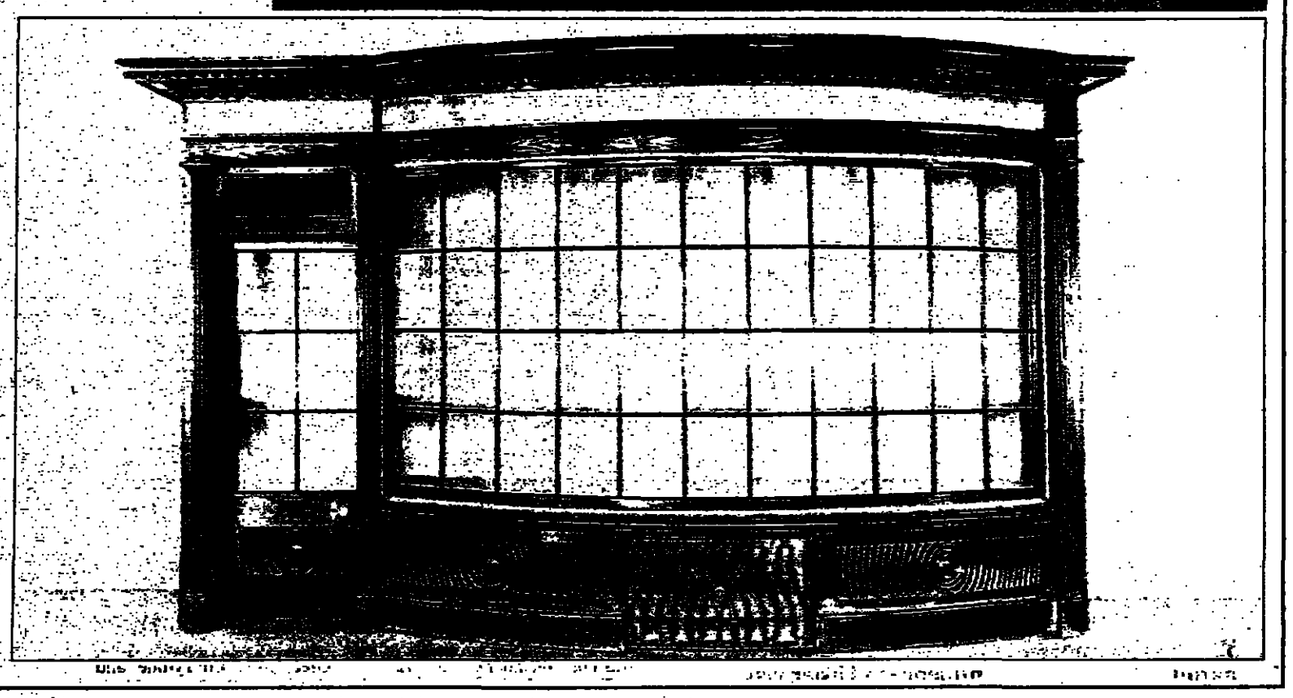
Mr Yu, who moved to Britain from Beijing eight years ago, said: "Most of all, it would mean reducing the size of the business, not just in the short term but forever." Mrs Yu added: "We are not at all sure about this. It presents real problems for us and we do regard the old shop-front as rather old-fashioned."

Dr Percival said: "At present the restaurant is designed with its entrance door in the middle of the building, and the Georgian shop-front has the door on the left as you look at it. Because of this, Mr and Mrs Yu would be forced to re-arrange their accommodation and they could lose a number of their tables.

"We just have to let the dust settle now and hope that in perhaps a couple of years they will change their minds. In the meantime, we are hoping that a grant from the National Lottery Fund may be available to pay for the eventual reinstatement and any resulting loss of profits to the Yus. Its return to Kent is a fairy tale come true."

ADRIAN SHERRATT





Safe's a steal for the great crane robbers

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

IT HAD to be the work of the Heavy Mob. The safe weighed 15cwt, not counting the Christmas takings.

And, between it and the thieves, was a not-inconsiderable brick wall. Plainly, in the absence of a Sherman tank, some heavy gear was called for.

Still, the job had its advantages. For one thing, the BP service station off the A2 at Barham near Canterbury was isolated. For another, at 3.15am yesterday, it was closed. Thanks to the local authority, the mob also had the right wheels for the Great Crane Robbery.

By the time police arrived, the thieves had made their getaway on the road to Dover, leaving behind a space where the green metal safe used to be and a large hole in the wall.

All detectives had to go on was a tip-off from a man sleeping in a caravan near by who heard two heavy vehicles — believed to be a large lorry with a mounted crane and a bucket on the back, together with a high-sided white panel van.

Inspector Gary Sutton of Kent Constabulary said: "The witness was woken by the sound of two vehicles at the garage.

"We believe they used the crane's hydraulic arm to smash down the wall."

He added: "They then lifted the safe out in the bucket. We are not sure whether the strongbox, which contained thousands of pounds worth of Christmas takings, was carried away by the crane or in the separate vehicle."

Hours later officers found an abandoned lorry with a mounted crane on it a few miles from the garage in Deusole.

Police believe it was the same vehicle that was stolen from a Kent County Council depot in Hythe on Christmas Eve.

Mr Sutton added: "The whole operation was obviously planned. They would have taken the lorry with a view to raiding the garage at some stage."

Father shoots teenage son after row then kills himself

BY LIN JENKINS

A WOMAN was being comforted *last night* after her husband shot their teenage schoolboy son before turning the gun on himself during a family row.

The 50-year-old man died after he went into the garden and shot himself.

The boy of fifteen was last night fighting for his life as he underwent emergency surgery for gunshot wounds to the stomach. His condition was described as very serious.

The bullet is said to have entered his body at close range from the front and passed straight through, coming out of his back.

Police believe that father and son had argued over lunch and that the dispute remained unresolved when they finished the meal.

After his wife left the house to visit a friend the man fetched his gun, shot the boy and — distraught over what he had done — went into his garden and, less than a minute later, shot himself dead.

Police sources said that after the father had shot his son he dialled 999 to raise the alarm.

It was only when he had alerted the emergency services that he went into the garden and shot himself dead.

A police spokesman said: "The youth's mother was not present during the incident, but is being cared for by relatives. Police are investigating this tragic incident with an open mind, but are not currently looking for anyone else in connection with the matter."

Armed police were called to the house in Green Lane, Chichester, Sussex, shortly before 3pm yesterday after neighbours reported hearing gunshots.

They found the man already dead and the boy still conscious.

He was taken to St Richard's Hospital, Chichester. A spokesman for the ambulance service said that the teenager remained conscious during the journey.

Police who last night cordoned off the area around the house said that a gun had been found in the garden beside the dead man and had been taken away for forensic examination.

A spokesman for Sussex police said: "We were called to an incident in Green Lane, Chichester, where a youth has been injured by a firearm and an old man shot dead. No one else is being sought in connection with this incident.

"It would appear to be a horrific tragedy. We believe that there was a single weapon involved and it has been recovered."

He said the identity of the family would not be disclosed until later today when other relatives of the dead man had been informed.

MYSTERY OF BOY'S DEATH

Police investigating the death of a 16-year-old boy who apparently shot himself in his back garden with his father's .22 rifle are trying to establish why he might have wanted to take his life. It is believed that Stuart Tomblin might have been upset over a girl but detectives also want to know if he could have been influenced by a television programme three hours earlier. The ITV police drama *Wycliffe* on Saturday focused on the dangers of firearms. Steven Tomblin, who legally owns two rifles, found his son at 1am yesterday lying on his back with head and face injuries at the family home in Yaxley, near Peterborough, Cambridgeshire. No note was believed to have been left. The rifle involved in the shooting, found near the body, has been taken away for examination. Police were refusing to speculate on whether the death was an accident or suicide but said there was no reason to believe that anyone else was involved. A spokesman said inquiries would include trying to find out what Stuart was doing in the hours leading up to the tragedy. "We would check whether he might have seen anything on television which could be relevant," he said. The teenager was a pupil at Stanground College in Peterborough and is believed to have wanted to join the Army.

Gales return for the new year

GALES and driving rain are set to disrupt the new year holiday in parts of the country that are just returning to normal after being battered by hurricane-force winds over Christmas (Lin Jenkins writes).

As electricity was finally restored to the last few hundred homes cut off four days ago, forecasters said that more bad weather would arrive from the Atlantic on Tuesday.

Satellite tracking of the weather front suggested that the eye of the storm would head towards Iceland, leaving the West and North West facing strong winds similar to those that ripped down power cables and damaged supply lines. "We are being slightly wary as it is some way off yet but it is all going to start up again as we go through the next couple of days," a spokesman for the Weather Centre said. "We will see winds coming into the western part of the country through Tuesday and Wednesday, making it windy for Hogmanay and New Year's Day."

Weather forecast 24

Yesterday work began on reconnecting the remaining 2,000 homes out of the 140,000 Manweb and Norweb customers who were cut off over Christmas. Where supplies could not be reinstated generators were supplied. Gaynor Kenyon, spokeswoman for Manweb, said the area of Lleyn Peninsula was causing a particular problem because of its location and the scale of damage. "We are still working around the clock to complete all the repairs and get supplies reconnected."

In Cheshire, 14 homes were still without electricity but Mrs Kenyon said that generators had been installed.

A spokesman for Norweb, suppliers to Cumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester and the Derbyshire Peak District, said its Christmas crisis was over. "Normal repair service has resumed this morning and anyone who lost their supply during the storms on Christmas Eve should have been reconnected. Anyone who is not should contact us immediately."

Freezing conditions overnight were expected to lead to a foggy morning replaced later by thickening cloud. Temperatures were likely to become mild again as the storm arrives from the west.

"It looks as if things might just slide up towards Iceland rather than come across Britain which would hold off the worst of the gales, but it will be windy in the west of the country," a spokesman for the Weather Centre said.

New Year's leave.

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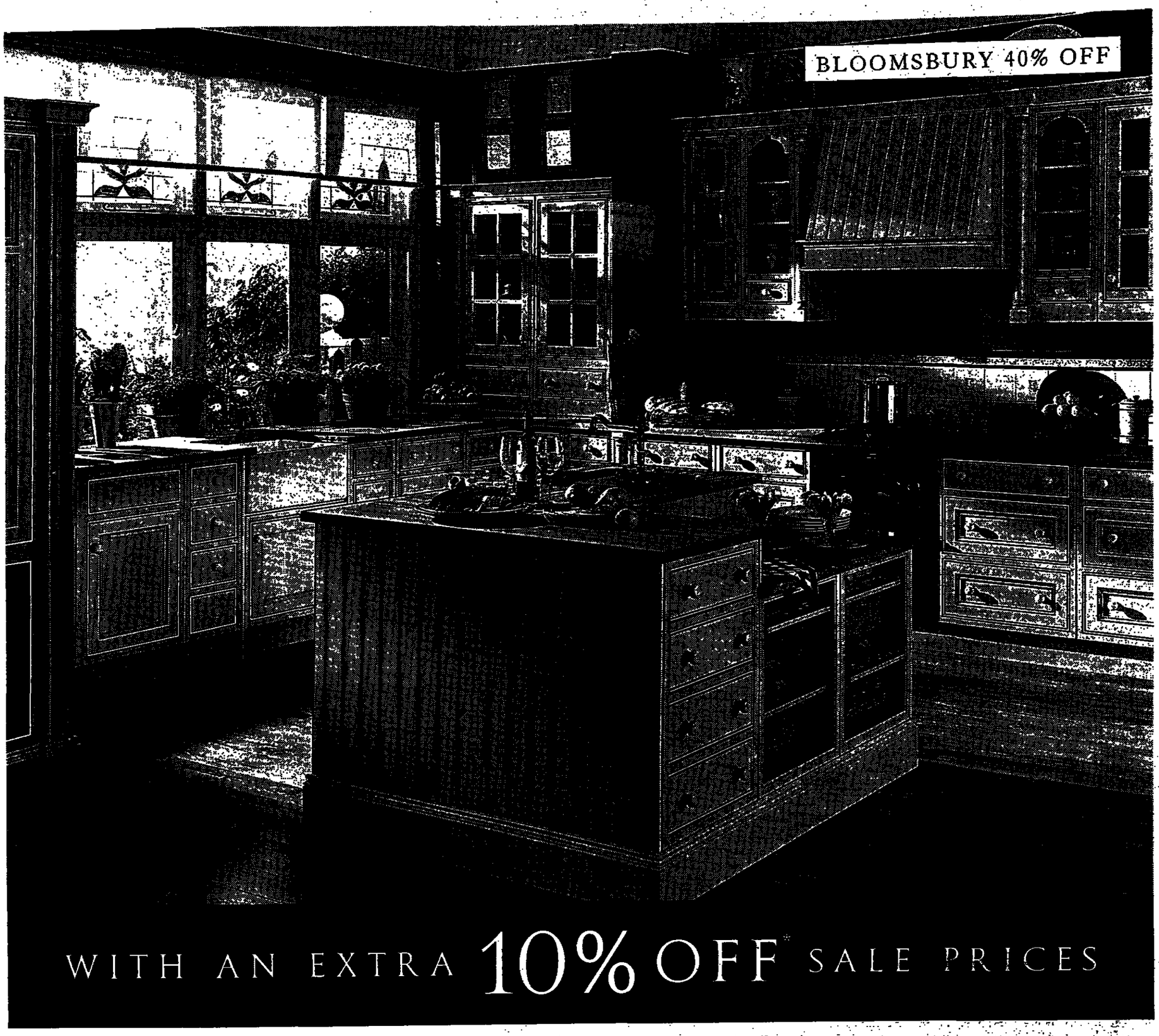
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British citizen Getty likely to become Sir Paul

Application to upgrade honorary title 'a formality' reports Mark Henderson

THE billionaire oil heir and anglophile philanthropist, J Paul Getty Jr, is likely to become Sir Paul after his successful application for British nationality.

The Home Office confirmed yesterday that Mr Getty, 65, had been granted British citizenship in the week before Christmas, clearing the way for him to adopt in full the honorary knighthood he was awarded in 1986. As an American citizen, he had previously not been allowed to use the title "Sir". He has already renounced his US nationality.

Transformation of the honorary KBE into a full knighthood is not automatic, but Buckingham Palace said yesterday that it was essentially "a formality". An application for upgrading the title will be submitted to the Queen by the Central Chancery at Buckingham Palace for her signature.

The final decision will be made in consultation with the Foreign Office and a date will then set for Mr Getty's investiture at the Palace. The announcement of an upgrade does not have to coincide with any of the regular publications of honours lists, such as this week's New Year's Honours.

A British passport and title will provide a fitting culmination to a 25-year love affair with the country where Mr Getty made his home after a rootless and difficult early life in Italy and the Far East.

He settled here in 1972 and beat a much-publicised heroin addiction in a London clinic before becoming one of the British arts' greatest benefactors.

He has given at least £120 million to worthy causes, including £50 million to the National Gallery, £20 million to the British Film Institute, £1 million to keep Canova's *Three Graces* in Britain and an undisclosed sum to help buy Sir Winston Churchill's papers for the nation.

Mr Getty also donated £3 million to Hereford Catherdral to save the *Mappa Mundi*, a 5ft-high 13th century map of the world which looked certain to be sold abroad. The catherdral had proposed to auction the map, made from animal skin, for an expected £7 million to fund repairs to the Norman building, before Mr Getty and the National Heritage Memorial Fund stepped in to save it for the nation.

A £2.7 million library built to house the map, drafted on animal skin, opened at the cathedral in 1996 and was in June named as the Royal Fine Art Commission's building of the year.

Mick Jagger introduced him to cricket, which he followed passionately. He bought *Wisden*, the cricketers' Bible, and made generous donations to Lord's including £1.5 million towards the redevelopment of the Mound Stand.

John Major and the Australian cricket greats Ray Lindwall and Keith Miller have been among his guests at the ground — he was granted fast-track membership of the MCC — and he is also president of Surrey County Cricket Club, which counts the Queen as patron the Prince of Wales as landlord. His 3,000-acre estate in Wormsley, Buckinghamshire, includes a cricket pitch, and he also owns properties in London. In 1994, he married his long-term British friend, Victoria Holdsworth, in Barbados. Mr Getty has not applied for citizenship before and is understood to be pleased his application was processed swiftly. He rarely gives interviews, and has not indicated why he decided to apply for a British passport at this time. Friends say his love of the British way of life was behind the move.

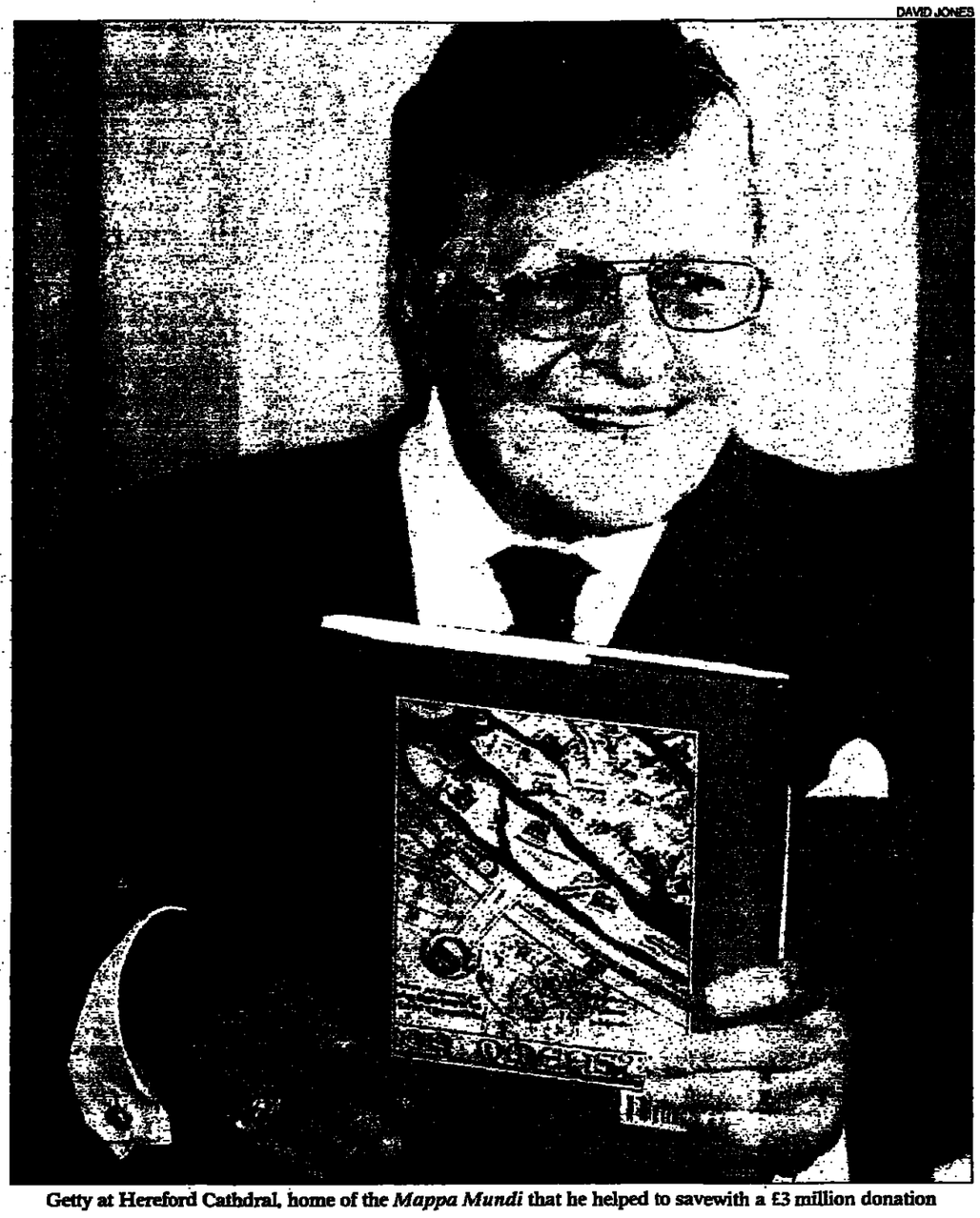
His fortune of more than £1 billion will attract fresh scrutiny from the Inland Revenue, but he is unlikely to face a substantially higher tax bill as many of his assets are already taxed in this country. He may even reduce his liability because he will no longer have to pay American taxes, which are levied on all citizens regardless of whether or not they live in the US.

Mr Getty's son Mark, 36, whose company Getty Communications is valued at more than £200 million, became an Irish citizen earlier this year to escape demands from the US taxman.

The third son of John Paul Getty, once the richest man in the world, Mr Getty moved to Britain from Italy after the death of his wife Talitha from a drug overdose. He has never lived permanently in the US, but the US government is thought to be disappointed at his decision to renounce citizenship.

In 1986 he was made Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to the arts. According to *Debrett's Correct Form*, he will now be able to take up the title "Sir" denied to him then.

DAVID JONES



Getty at Hereford Cathdral, home of the *Mappa Mundi* that he helped to savewith a £3 million donation



Getty, seen with cricket unpire Harold "Dickie" Bird, was introduced to the game by Mick Jagger

Teachers may get radios in case of attack

BY DAVID CHARTER
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

TEACHERS in isolated classrooms should have personal alarms or radios so that they can call for help if attacked, government guidance published today recommends.

The guidance, drawn up after the killing two years ago of Philip Lawrence, the London head teacher, urges schools to ensure that every teacher has a means of raising the alarm. It stops short of advising teachers to "bash and dash" if cornered by an attacker, as proposed by the Association of Teachers and Lecturers last month. However it recommends the Suzy Lamplugh Trust's book *Personal Safety for Schools* which the ATL used as the basis for its last-resort advice.

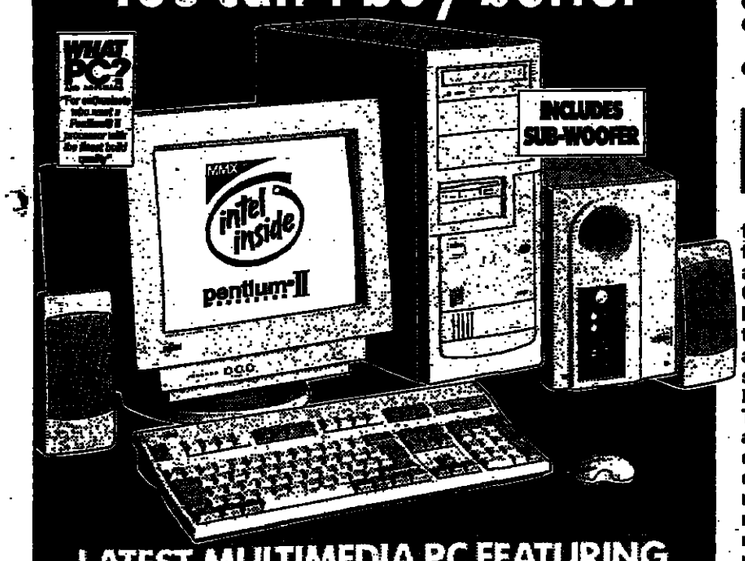
The guidance was issued as £22 million was distributed to local authorities to help to make schools safer for teachers and pupils. Projects include "school watch" schemes, closed-circuit television camera security and training for staff in defusing dangerous situations.

The guidance details the legal measures a school can take to control troublemakers, such as court injunctions and securing playing fields used by the public. It comes just weeks after a survey by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust showed that in one in ten schools pupils carry weapons. It says: "Planning for dealing with assaults on staff and pupils should include consideration of the means of summoning help."

Estelle Morris, the Education Minister, said: "Maintaining a secure environment for pupils and for teachers is crucial. The guidance, *School Security: Dealing with Troublemakers*, explains how schools and the police can work together to deal with problems in and around school premises. It has been sent to all schools and police forces."

From next April, teachers can use "reasonable force" to restrain pupils in some circumstances. Advice on when and how to take action will be issued later.

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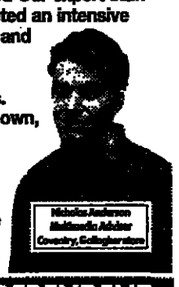
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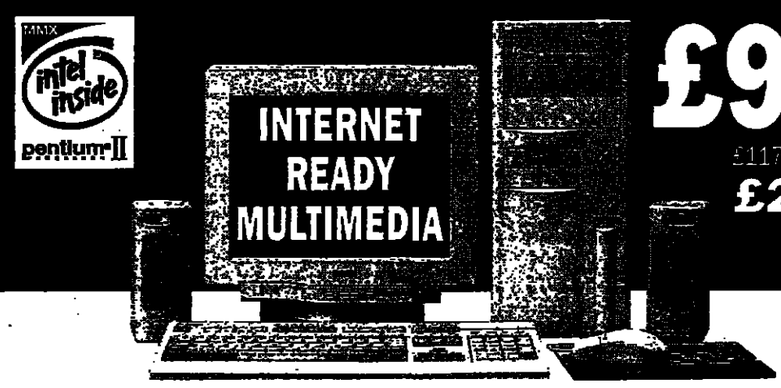
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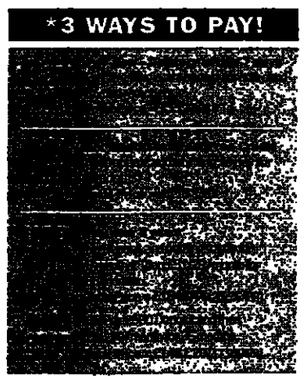
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Joanne Davies

Stabbed mother wakes to hold baby

BY JOANNA BALE

THE woman stabbed in the head in an alleged "road-rage" incident on Christmas Eve regained consciousness at the weekend. Joanne Davies's first words were a request to see her baby son, Lee.

Her father, Allan, from Pembroke, West Wales, said yesterday: "To see her hold the baby was the best Christmas present we have ever had. We were all very emotional. The nurses propped her up in bed and she was able to hold him with the help of some pillows supporting her arms. It is difficult to believe that she underwent brain surgery only two days earlier."

Miss Davies, 20, was attacked at the roadside after allegedly being dragged from a car driven by Mark Duignan, her boyfriend, after a minor traffic incident at a roundabout in Pembroke. Lee, aged five months, had been asleep in the car.

She is in intensive care at Morriston Hospital, Swansea. Mr Davies, a construction company director, has spent every day at the hospital with his wife, Pam. He said: "Joanne was very coherent but quite weak. We did not dwell too much on the incident but she was able to remember everything that happened. She asked Mark if anyone had been arrested. She is not able to carry out much movement but we are optimistic that she will make a full recovery."

☐ Six people were remanded in custody by Carmarthen magistrates on Saturday on charges arising out of the attack.

Charges fail to price drivers off the roads

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

JOHN PRESCOTT is being advised to shelve plans to charge motorists for city-centre driving because there is not enough evidence that it will substantially reduce congestion. A trial scheme being conducted in Leicester suggests that most motorists are prepared to pay an extra £4 a day rather than use public transport.

A daily charge needs to be as high as £6 to deter motorists from entering the city centre. Advisers to Mr Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister and Transport Secretary, believe that more detailed research on charging is needed before legislation can be drafted.

This would mean that charges on company car-parking spaces, together with above-inflation increases in fuel duty already announced, are likely to be the main weapons to deter motorists. Plans to introduce motorway tolling have been abandoned as unworkable the short term.

In the eight-month trial scheme in Leicester, 100 council staff receive a commuting allowance on a smart card. A £3 charge is thought likely to prompt only a 15 per cent reduction in commuter car journeys. Charges for parking are seen as easier for councils to operate than charging motorists for driving. It is estimated that six out of ten town-centre spaces are workplace-related and government research suggests that halving the number could reduce congestion by one fifth.

Advisers suggest that a £100 annual charge on all company parking spaces could raise up to £1 billion a year. Government sources play down reports that charges could rise to £400 a year in busy cities or to £1,000 in central London. Ministers are reluctant to impose parking charges on individuals because of the bureaucratic complexity but believe that charging companies will be less complicated. More than 1.7 million companies already pay a parking charge, often unknowingly, through the uniform business rate that can value a parking slot at up to £1,000. Research to be published next month by the pressure group Transport 2000 is expected to back parking charges.

Ministers have abandoned plans to introduce electronic congestion charging, claiming that the technology is not yet proven. A permit system is seen as the more viable alternative but even that poses potentially serious problems of enforcement and management. Transport advisers warn that, unless there is definite proof that a charge reduces congestion, the scheme will be attacked as a revenue-raising ploy rather than a contribution to reducing congestion and pollution.

Mr Prescott is casting around for radical ways to change people's attitudes to the car in time for a White Paper to be published in May, to be followed by legislation later in the year or early in 1999. Several schemes already being tested in cities and congested areas — such as Edinburgh, York, Nottingham, Southampton and Heathrow — have stood out and are being examined in closer detail.

Europe's first bus lane on a major motorway is expected to be opened on the London-bound carriageway of the M4, near Ealing in West London. Others may follow on stretches of the M25, M1 and M6.

COMPANY CAR CHEATS

Company car drivers are clocking up as many as 8.2 billion miles a year in bogus journeys to beat the taxman. Arriva Automotive Solutions, one of Britain's biggest fleet companies, which surveyed 5,000 company motorists over a period of 18 months, says average business mileage almost triples in March and April just before the end of the tax year so that company car drivers can reduce their tax bills by 35 per cent. Yet the journeys are often hastily arranged trips to far-flung outposts of the company empire simply to clock up enough miles to beat government-imposed thresholds.



The trial in Leicester: drivers pay £4 a day rather than use public transport

TRAFFIC REDUCTION SCHEMES – THE FRONT RUNNERS



Poor face greatest risk of death and injury

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY

A STUDY of the social backgrounds of people killed and injured in road accidents points to sharp differences between social classes and even suggests that poorer people may also be poorer drivers.

Researchers found that more of those killed or injured in single-vehicle accidents over a three-year period around the Edinburgh area lived in poorer areas. Although the likelihood that cars owned by those in poorer areas tended to be older and less roadworthy was taken into account, the conclusion is that the ability of drivers from deprived areas may be a contributory factor.

The incidence of a person from the lowest 15 per cent of deprived areas being injured is 10.2 for every 10,000 of the population, falling to 5.1 per cent for the wealthiest 15 per cent.

The research, conducted by Napier University in Edinburgh, concludes: "Given the lower car ownership and hence exposure of this group, together with the possible better handling and crashworthiness of the more recent vehicles used by those from affluent areas, the higher rate suggests poorer driver performance."

The research team was headed by Ibrahim Abdalla, who has conducted Government research on links between social deprivation and road accidents.

Although residents of deprived areas were generally most vulnerable to death or injury in road accidents, much of this is explained by the fact that they are more likely to walk or cycle, the riskiest modes of travel. But the casualty rate from single-vehicle accidents is likely to prompt wider concerns about the greater risks faced by some drivers.

The findings, published in *Traffic Engineering and Control* magazine, also suggest that those from poor areas suffer the greatest risk of being seriously or slightly injured, of failing breathalyser tests and are least likely to wear seatbelts.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Driver is jailed for drunken excess

A pub chef has been jailed for five months after being caught over the limit for the eighth time in three years. Keith Parkyn, 26, from Hilsea, Hampshire, was nearly three times over the limit when police stopped him in Portsmouth. He also has 12 convictions for driving while disqualified.

Portsmouth magistrates also gave Parkyn a concurrent five-month sentence for driving while disqualified and banned him from driving for three years.

Singer charged

Mark Morrison, the pop singer, has been bailed to appear before Derby magistrates next month charged with a public order offence. Morrison, 25, was arrested outside a club in Derby after fighting broke out.

Trees from cards

The Post Office has launched a Christmas card recycling scheme at 8,000 collection points and 3,000 schools. Money raised from the operation, which runs until January 31, will be used to plant thousands of trees.

Children killed

Three children died when their father's van caught fire while they played inside it. Amber Quinn, 5, Megan, 4, and Ryan, 18 months, were playing in the vehicle outside their home in the Finglas suburb of Dublin.

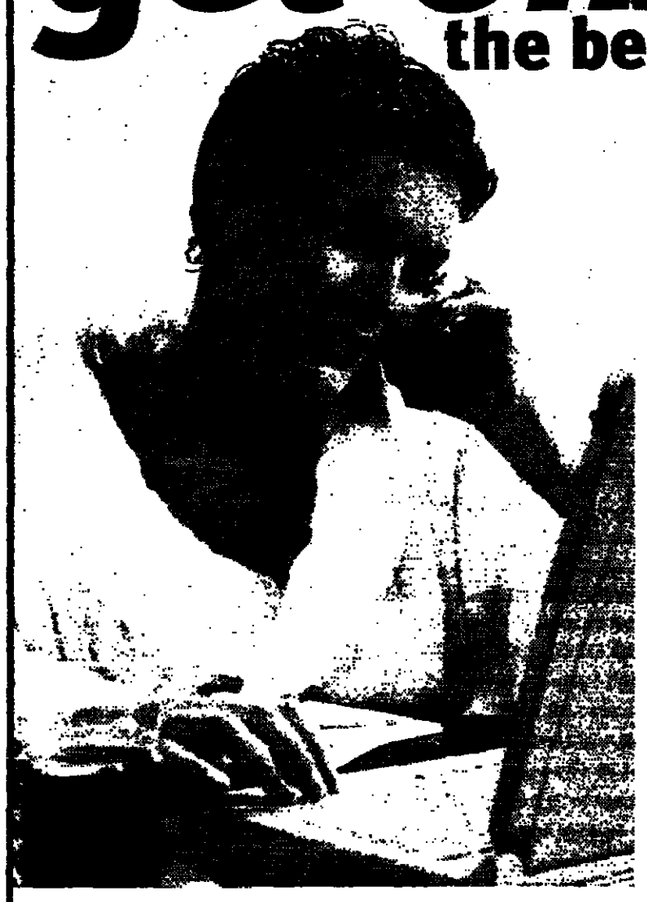
Perverts missing

More than a thousand of Britain's most dangerous sex offenders are missing from the register created to track their movements. Police figures show 1,159 of the 4,524 offenders required to register have not signed up.

Jacobite find

Three antique swords used in the Jacobite rising of 1745 have been unearthed at a Perthshire farmhouse. Thought to be the remains of a laird's outlawed armoury, they have been valued at up to £1,000 each.

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Mother tries to track down island killer



Carol Leach with her fellow teachers from Green Castle school on Eleuthera



SWNS

Eve Gamson with her daughter, whom she believes was murdered because of her fight against drug dealers

Daniel McGrory reports on a lone woman's fight to 'shame' police into bringing teacher's killer to justice

A GRIEVING mother is flying to the Caribbean in the next few days to "shame" detectives into finding her daughter's killer.

For six months Eve Gamson has single-handedly campaigned to discover who murdered her daughter as she slept in her villa on the remote island of Eleuthera in the Bahamas. "I am just so frustrated. Nothing, it seems, is being done. The police won't answer my letters. They ignore me and hope I will fade away, so I am going to the Bahamas to shame them and stir them up. The police investigation seems to me indolent and incompetent."

She is indignant that the Royal Bahamas police refused an offer from Scotland Yard to send forensic scientists and murder squad detectives. Mrs Gamson believes that her daughter, Carol Leach, a 36-year-old schoolteacher was killed because of her outspoken views on the drug dealers who, she claimed, ruled the island. A £10,000 reward offered by a friend of her daughter has so far failed to break what Mrs Gamson says is a conspiracy of silence on the island. "It is such a small, intimate place that someone must know something."

Police in the Bahamas are trying to link Miss Leach's killing with the murder of another Englishwoman, who died during a burglary last month on a nearby island. Mrs Gamson insists there are no similarities. "There was no sign of a burglary in Carol's death. There was no sign of any forced entry and nothing was taken."

The island authorities are refusing to hold an inquest and Mrs Gamson has only just been sent the autopsy report, which showed her daughter was found lying face down on her bed. She had been killed by a single blow to the head with what police believe was the blunt end of a machete. There was no sign of a sexual assault.

"Every week I used to telephone the police to ask about progress and every week the answer was the same — none. Carol hated drugs. She saw what it was doing to the children she taught, and she was not afraid to speak out. I believe this killed her."

At her daughter's funeral Mrs Gamson met one of the island's most notorious drug dealers. "He shook my hand, swore it was none of his people but said Carol was so respected that he would investigate the murder. Imagine drug dealers doing more than the police to find her killer."

Carol Leach had moved to the Bahamas seven years ago with her husband, Christopher. After he left her three years ago she decided to stay, telling her mother she loved the life and the people.

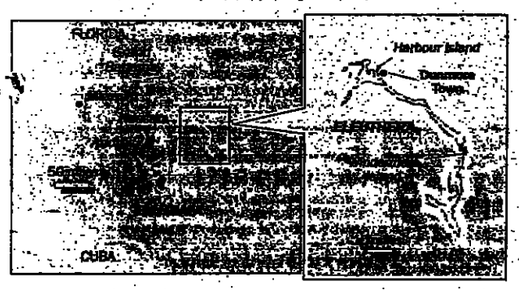
Mrs Gamson, 63, a pharmacist from Coleford, Somerset, said: "When I went into her room I had never seen so much blood. The killer must have been covered in it but supposedly nobody saw a thing, nor heard a thing."

Police told Mrs Gamson that she should leave the island for her own safety. "They also said I should not be staying with some of Carol's friends, whom I had known for years, suggesting they might be part of their inquiry, which is so laughable."

As a last resort she accepted the offer of a reward from John Van Pelt III, an American businessman who shared her daughter's passion for scuba diving. "£10,000 represents a fortune on those islands but the police haven't bothered to advertise it. My last hope is that it would loosen someone's lips. This is a small island. Someone knows who killed Carol because the murderer is still living there."

Superintendent Douglas Hannah, chief of the Bahamas CID, said: "We are following a lot of inquiries and we do not need outside help from Scotland Yard or anywhere. We are concentrating on the victim's private life as we believe she knew her killer."

Mrs Gamson said: "She was executed while she slept. The authorities there should know I will not rest until I find her killer. I will not stay silent."



Freak wave sweeps man to death in front of family

A MAN was swept to his death in front of his family on Boxing Day during a holiday in the Canary Islands.

Andrew MacRae, 37, from Golspie, Highlands, was paddling on the beach in Lanzarote when a freak wave and strong undertow washed him away.

His daughter Anna, 18 months, his wife, Amanda, and her parents Jean and Martin Dent were on the two-week break with him.

Mr MacRae was a senior care manager at a Highland council residential home for the elderly in Golspie, where his boss, Hower Thomson, heard of his death in a phone call from the Canary Islands on Boxing Day.

She said yesterday: "We are all going through a very bad time as a result of getting this tragic news. Andrew was a wonderful guy and a dedicated member of my team. He is going to be very badly missed here." Mr MacRae was part of a team of three managers at the home, which doubles as a day resource centre.

Mr MacRae, whose parents are dead, had been married for four years. He had left work on December 19 for the trip to Lanzarote.

Offenders to restore neglected memorials

By Michael Horsnell

YOUNG offenders on community service orders could be called in to help to restore some of the estimated 50,000 war memorials and rolls of honour.

Senior probation officers are considering proposals to put offenders at the forefront of a preservation scheme started by the Friends of War Memorials charitable trust. After the successful start of a project in West Sussex, the Association of Chief Officers of Probation is considering extending the scheme nationwide and is contacting members to alert them to the opportunities.

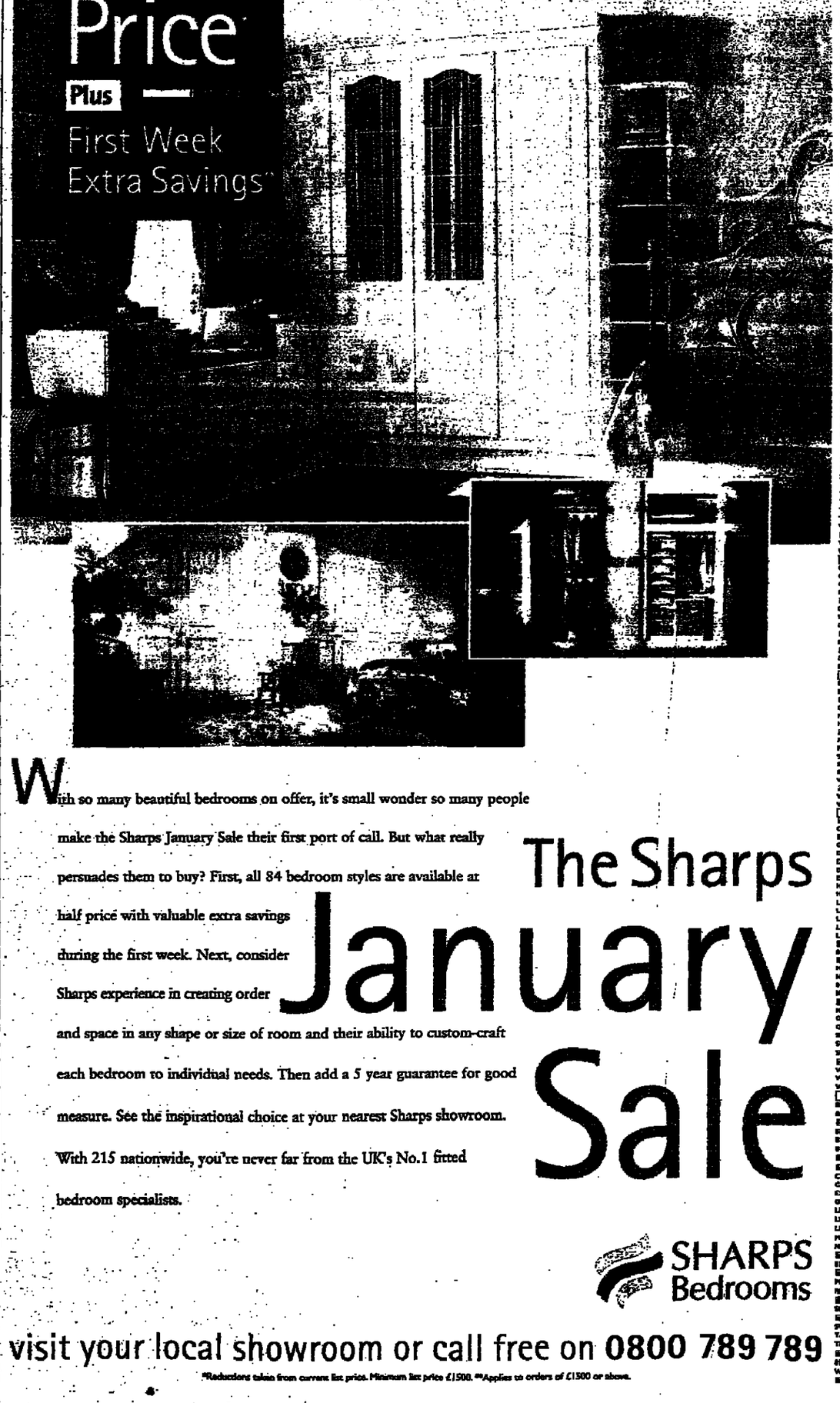
Ian Davidson, a former Royal Marine who founded the trust two years ago, said that it would remind a new generation of the sacrifices made by their forefathers as well as provide useful community work for offenders.

Mr Davidson said: "In a way, we are to blame for the way these guys are today because we don't seem to have time for our children and young people. We don't seem to have time to talk to them."

The 1923 War Memorials Act empowered local authorities to maintain and repair tributes put up by communities to their war dead but did not oblige them to do so.

The National Inventory of War Memorials, set up at the Imperial War Museum in 1989, has recorded 26,000 but as many again may also exist.





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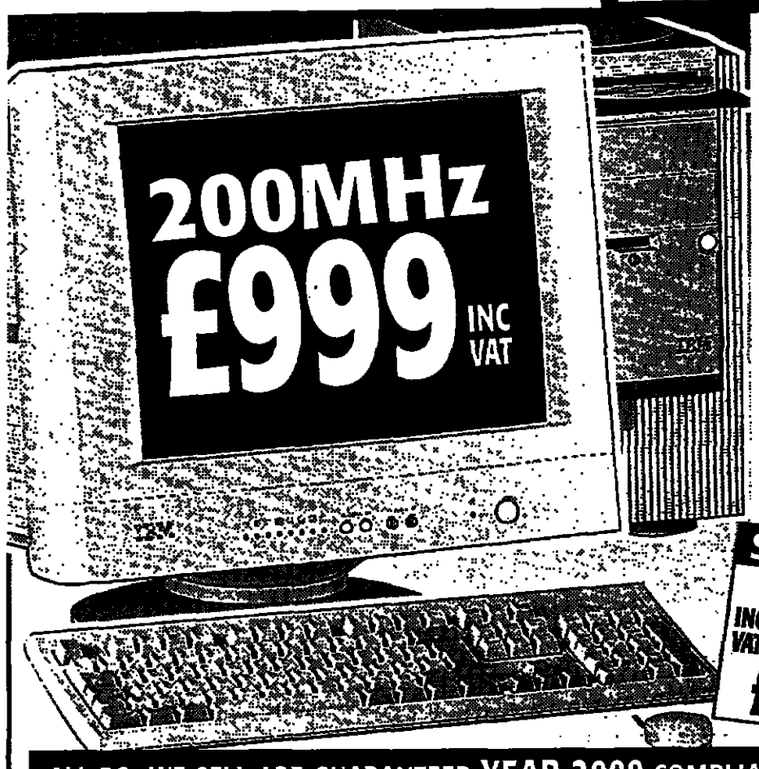
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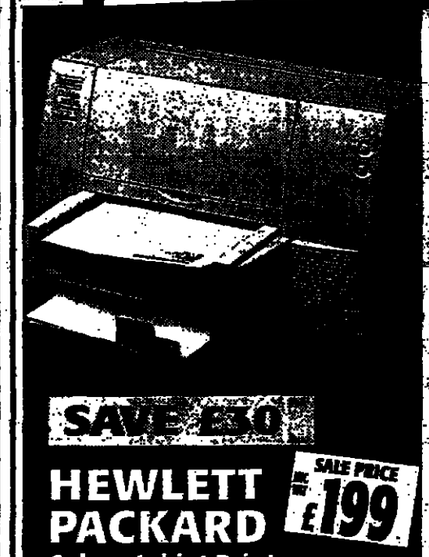

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Science chief keys in to virtual Red Box

The computer age is taking hold in government, writes **Nigel Hawkes**

THE Science Minister John Battle will be the first minister since the 19th century to escape from the tyranny of the Red Box.

Mr Battle's Red Boxes, traditionally used to carry confidential papers for ministers to study, will be replaced in the New Year by an electronic system that will enable him to call up papers on a screen at his home in Leeds or at his flat in London.

As well as simplifying the job, they will save his back from the labour of shifting up to three of the boxes at a time, stuffed with letters, files and background briefings. "I've had a bad back for years and it's not good carting three of those around," he says.

Mr Battle is pioneering the use of the "virtual Red Box" which the Cabinet Office intends to extend in due course to all ministers. He set the ball rolling as soon as he arrived in his office in May, calling in computer experts at the Department of Trade and Industry to design him a hacker-proof system that he could access through telephone lines.



The Red Box: bane of ministers since 19th century

"It has been modelled on a system I was already using," the minister explained yesterday. "When I arrived in Whitehall I thought they were a bit behind in using the latest methods for accessing information."

Mr Battle's average Red Box contains between 80 and 100 letters, ten policy papers for each of the three areas of his responsibility — science, industry and energy — and at least 30 background briefings. "For each letter there will be the original I am replying to, the reply typed on vellum, and often a lot of background explanation," he says.

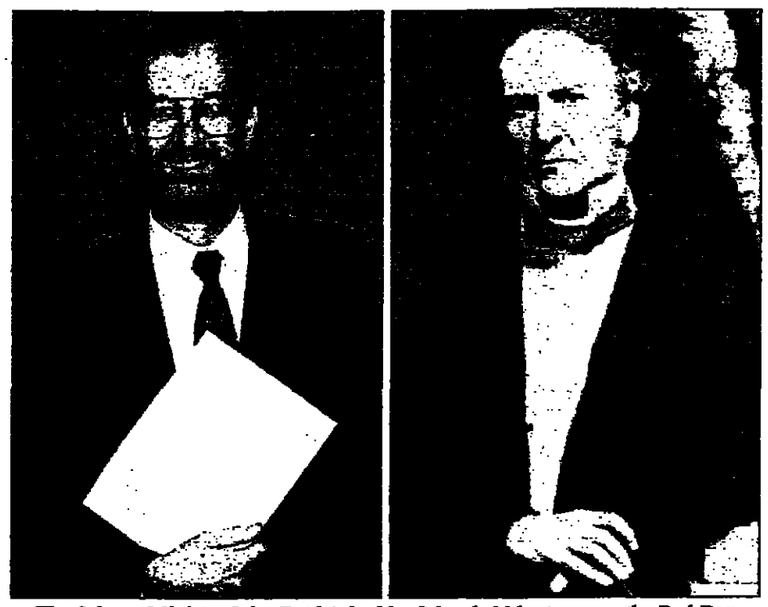
"I make corrections on the vellum copy and then it is typed again before being sent. It's wasteful, as well as expensive. Each of the boxes has to be delivered, then collected and taken to the station to be transported back to the department in London. Each time it costs £250, so the new system is going to pay for itself in months."

The system is designed so that Mr Battle can access what he needs, filed appropriately by his private office. Security is vital and depends on the use of codes to access the information.

"Some of the papers I've got are confidential, some of them could even affect the value of companies on the Stock Exchange if information got out, so it's got to be hacker-proof and I must be the only one that can code into it," he says.

"If someone breaks into my flat, I don't want them breaking into my computer, shoving in a disc or CD and pulling it out and running off with it and selling the information. It has to be top level security."

The new system will be complete in the New Year when high-performance ISDN lines are installed in Mr Battle's constituency and London homes. Then all he will need for his evening and weekend work will be a computer linked to the line to transmit documents at high speed.



The Science Minister John Battle's bad back has led him to spurn the Red Box that has been around since the days of William Gladstone, right

Ministers have been dogged with Red Boxes since the days of Gladstone and Disraeli. In the new Government, many of whose members prefer to travel by public transport, the Red Boxes are a problem. For reasons of security, Red Boxes can be taken on trains but not on buses, which are regarded as more of a risk. As a result some ministers have been working late at their offices to get through their boxes, rather than taking them home.

Mr Battle appears to have stolen a march on the rest of Whitehall by getting his virtual Red Box first. "Some ministers are mad keen on getting what I've got," Mr Battle says.

But he admits that if his civil servants had a really confidential item to send him, and had any hesitation about the security of the computer system, they might revert to using a single Red Box.

Midwives alerted to abused mothers

BY MARK HENDERSON

MIDWIVES are to be issued with guidelines on how to spot signs of domestic violence against pregnant women after research showed alarming numbers of women are beaten up or sexually abused while expecting a child.

A list of warning signals drawn up by the Royal College of Midwives is to be issued to its members early next year. It follows advice from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists that doctors and support staff be trained to identify symptoms of domestic violence.

The recommendations were made after American studies found that between 2 and 20 per cent of pregnant women attending antenatal clinics had suffered physical, emotional or sexual abuse from their partners. The college's guidelines are based on the same research, which also suggested that many miscarriages, foetal injuries and gynaecological and obstetric difficulties could be derived from violence.

Workers pay for time on smoke breaks

BY LIN JENKINS

SMOKERS are being forced to make up the time they spend on cigarette breaks or face being paid less than their colleagues.

Employers worried about loss of productivity and the prospect of being sued by workers who develop smoking-related illnesses are keen to stamp out the habit.

Essex County Council in Harlow has told employees they must clock off before taking a smoking break outside the non-smoking building after a study suggested that smokers spent an average of 40 minutes a day on cigarette breaks. Now they have been told to clock in and out and, because they are on flexitime, have to make up the time.

Smoking-related illnesses are said to account for 50 million lost working days each year. Forest (Freedom Organisation for the Right to Enjoy Smoking Tobacco) said companies that claimed to be motivated by the threat of legal action from workers who develop diseases from passive smoking may be acting on the basis of flawed research.

Some small companies are offering incentive schemes to tempt people not to smoke. Patrick Terrett, a partner in a small interior design company in Barry, South Wales, said smokers were paid £1 less an hour than non-smokers, at £5. "A designer can't work with a cigarette in his mouth. They have to realise they have become unacceptable."

Biggs and Shoe Mines, a chain of shoe shops in the North West, believes the 12 years when it paid non-smokers a 10p an hour bonus led to a healthier and more efficient workforce. Tom Powney, the managing director, said: "Sick time has dropped dramatically. People are much healthier and more productive." The scheme was abandoned in April when the company's insurers said that an industrial tribunal could deem it to be discriminatory.

At a nightclub in Walsall, West Midlands, Scott Miles, the manager, pays non-smokers 50p an hour more than smokers. "We think of it as a disincentive to smoking, which is a dirty, horrible habit. We are also aware that employees could sue us if they get cancer from passive smoking."

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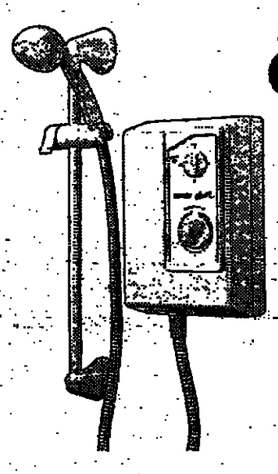
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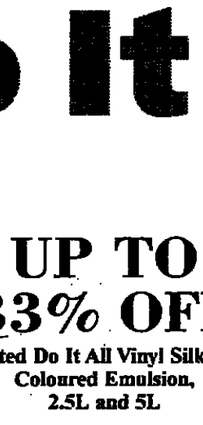
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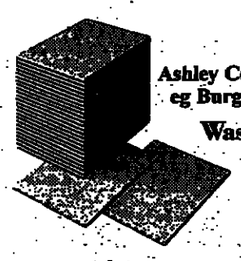
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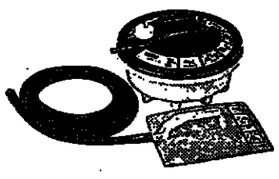
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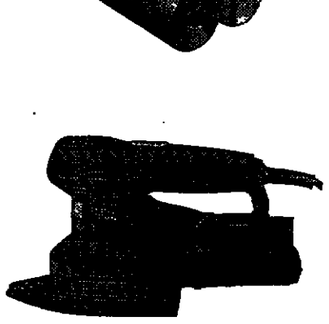


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Lottery's £25,000 for blue-letter day

By Dominic Kennedy

THE Millennium Commission has spent £25,000 of lottery money on a new logo, consisting of a blue letter "M" above an orange line to represent Britain's new dawn. A motto, "In The Spirit of the Future", has also been chosen.

But there are fears that the M will be seen as standing for "Mandelson", after Peter Mandelson, the Minister without Portfolio in charge of the Millennium Dome project in London, rather than "Millennium".

Jim Northover, of image consultants Lloyd Northover Citigate, who designed the new logo, accepted there was a risk. "It is inevitable some people will make that link. It is not something that we took too seriously. The M adapts a typeface that uses classical forms that go back to Roman times. It predates Peter Mandelson somewhat."

The commission already had an official logo, consisting of its name with a squiggly "N" in the middle, which cost a few thousand pounds. However, the decision to find a new identity, and the idea of a single brand to identify the 114 nationwide projects marking 2000, came from Lord Glentoran, one of the nine commissioners distributing £2 billion from the National Lottery. It follows the high-profile rebrandings of the BBC, Guinness and the United Kingdom itself, styled by Tony Blair as "a young country" at the Commonwealth Conference in Edinburgh.

The commission realises that it has failed to persuade the public that the bulk of the lottery money is going to community causes such as church bells and cycle tracks. Most people seemed to think that it was being spent on the dome in Greenwich.

The commissioners, who include Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, Michael Heseltine, the former Deputy Prime Minister, and Simon Jenkins, the *Times* columnist and its former Editor, asked Lloyd Northover Citigate for a makeover. The new image is simple enough to be engraved on bells, carved into foundation stones, or turned into moving pictures, with the capital "M" rising through the orange line like a sun coming up over the horizon.

Lord Glentoran said: "There has been so much confusion about the word millennium and the Millennium Dome and Mandelson and others, that we felt it was high time that we started to define what we have done."

The designers also had to find an M different from one of the world's most famous logos, the golden arches of McDonald's. Ideas rejected included designs based on the motifs "M2" or "M3". These were too confusing because they either looked back to the second millennium or forward to the third. They also sounded like motorways.

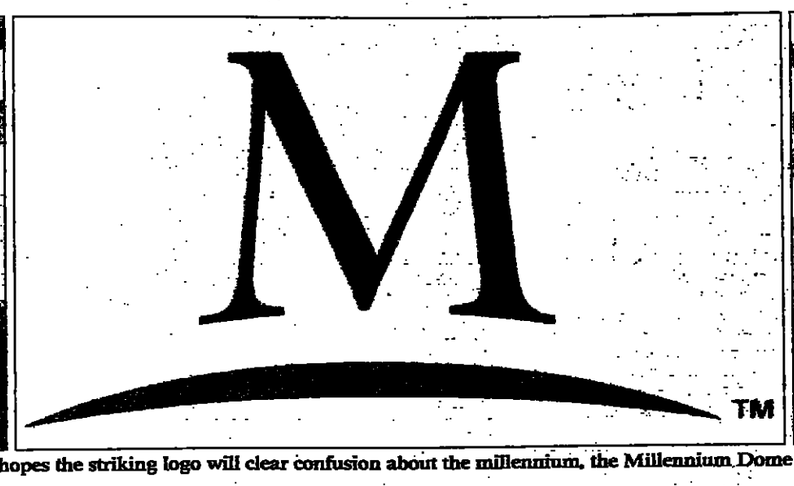
Designs based on the number 2000 were inappropriate. Mr Northover said: "Obviously a lot of the stuff will be enjoyed for a long time to come, after 2000 is a date in history."

Mottos rejected as too corny included "The Future Rising" and "The Future Starts Here".

Mr Northover, who has created logos for the British Airports Authority and Courtaulds, said there may be too many new images being created. "There has been a danger of logos being invented for the sake of it."

The BBC this year spent £5 million straightening the letters of its name and filming a balloon floating across British landmarks. Guinness this month becomes Diageo, based on the Latin for "day" and the Greek for "world".







Lord Glentoran, left, hopes the striking logo will clear confusion about the millennium, the Millennium Dome and Peter Mandelson

THE TIMES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Hunt for the triggers that cause cancer

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

THE environmental triggers that make some people develop cancers of the breast or prostate remain a mystery but they clearly do exist, says Dr David Phillips of the Institute of Cancer Research in Sutton, Surrey.

The chances are that something in the diet or the environment, acting during the early teenage years, contributes to the development of these cancers many years later, he says.

"We know that there are genes which predispose people to breast and prostate cancer but genes alone are not enough," he says.

"We can see that from studying migrating populations. The Japanese have a very low incidence of both these cancers at home but when they migrate to the US the incidence of both goes up and begins to approach the same level as the local population."

Dr Phillips is searching for these cancer triggers by examining fat from the breast and investigating whether it has the capacity to cause cancer.

The institute is one of two recipients of this year's *Times* Christmas Appeal. The appeal aims to raise £40,000 towards a gene sequencing machine to speed identification of the genes involved in prostate cancer. Compared with other cancers, those that affect men have been neglected in the past, something the institute hopes to change.

"What we are finding for breast cancer may be relevant also to prostate cancer," Dr Phillips says. He has shown that breast fat contains mutagenic materials able to initiate tumours. "Some breast fat extracts show high levels of activity and it is plausible that the same compounds could have something to do with the causation of prostate cancer too," he says.

"So far, prostate cancer hasn't had the same intensity of effort as breast cancer," he says. "We are hoping to change that."

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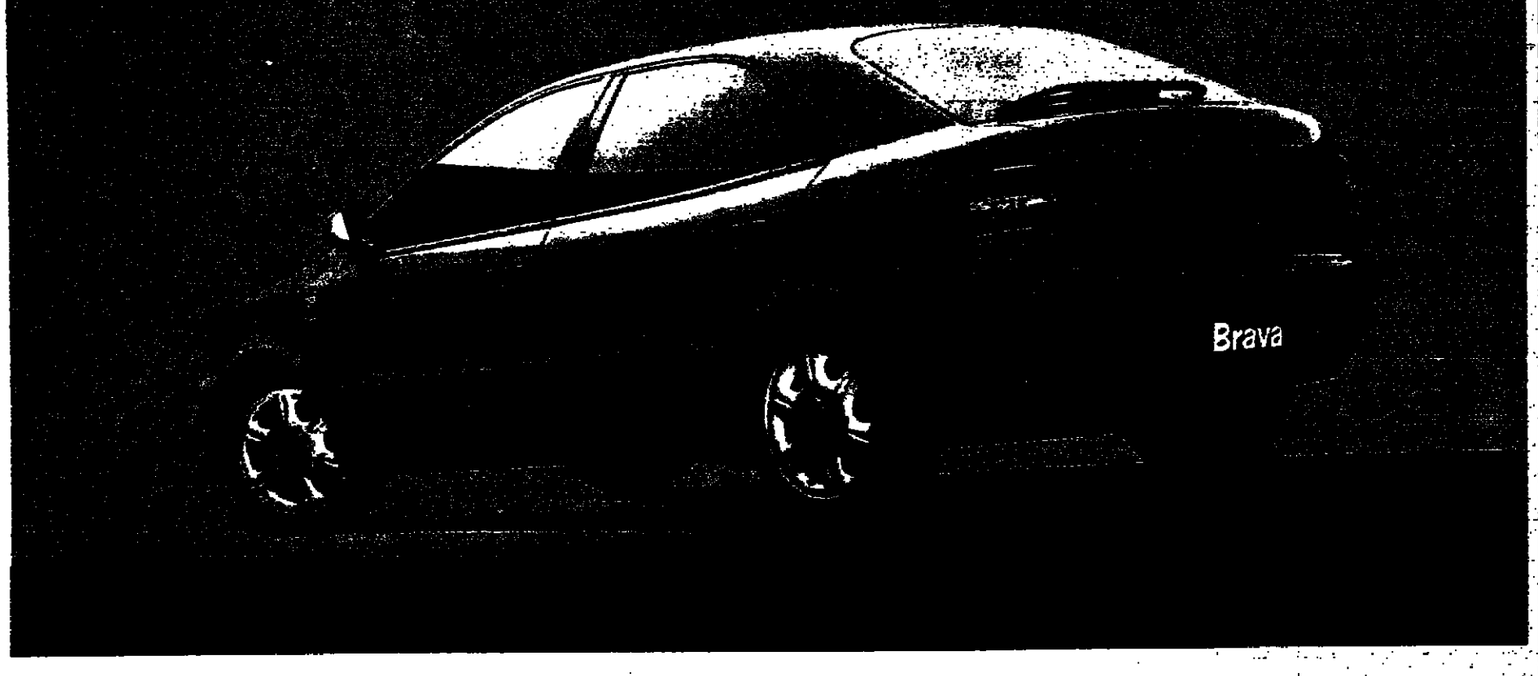
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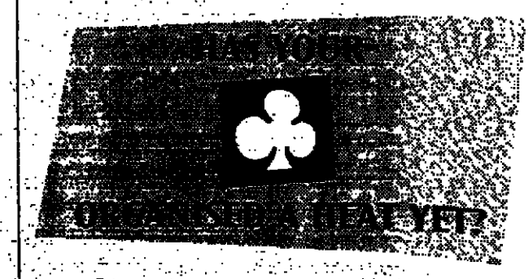
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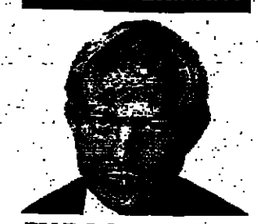
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Year of good intentions leaves racist monster lurking in the cellar

INSIDE GERMANY



BY ROGER BOYES

So farewell then, 1997, European Year Against Racism. Did anybody notice? The anecdotal evidence, and indeed the statistics, suggest racist attitudes in the European Union have deepened over the past 12 months.

In Germany the year started with tougher rules on immigrant children and ended with the rejection of Turkey's European ambitions. In eastern German regions such as Mecklenburg, neo-Nazi attacks on foreigners have doubled. The German Army is brimming over with reports of homemade videos depicting soldiers as torturers or mimicking the death of Jews. Human rights organisations, meanwhile, have accused the police of picking on foreigners. The climate is not more gentle elsewhere in Europe. The European Commission ordered a strange opinion survey asking members of the 15 states whether they considered themselves racist; many of the respondents did. Belgium headed the list, Germany and Britain were equal seventh, Luxembourg and Portugal at the bottom. The poll, like the anti-racism year, was based on muddled premises.

Was Belgium the most racist country in Europe or merely the most aware of its prejudices? Are Britons equally unpleasant to foreigners as Germans, or merely equally alert? Nobody will know until the right questions have been framed. Only then will it be possible to read the evidence in a sensible way and work out whether there really is a Europewide problem that has to be solved in an institutional way.

Has the German Army become a nest of neo-Nazis? Or is it that soldiers are more willing than before to denounce their colleagues of the far Right? Most of the incidents occurred three years ago. Perhaps the army became more sensitive in 1997 and remembered its civic responsibilities.

Again, the rise of neo-Nazi violence in Mecklenburg partly reflects a more vigilant police force; it has taken it a few years to understand how to make neo-Nazi charges stick. I know that in Saxony a tough anti-racist police unit has been winding up far-right cells with some success.

It is therefore difficult to measure racism on a political barometer. Simple observation suggests, though, that Germany's careful taboos are weakening and, when they do, xenophobic sentiment foams from the mouth.

It is enough to watch the Nigerian striker, Jonathan Akpoborie, play for Stuttgart and hear the insults bellowed from the rival terraces. More than 25 per cent of players in the top 18 Bundesliga clubs are foreigners, and there is a great deal of this verbal abuse on Saturday afternoons. The same night on television, fans can hear comedian Harald Schmidt again mouthing off against stupid Turks or Polish car thieves. He claims he is merely challenging the culture of political correctness, but if that is the case his viewers miss the point: he is the hero of the local pub.

In local elections in Hamburg recently, the ruling Social Democrats tried to win votes by spotlighting the high proportion of foreigners in the port's criminal milieu. Workers heard the message, knew a taboo was being shattered and drew the wrong conclusion: they deserted the Social Democrats and voted for the far-right German People's Union, which wants the automatic expulsion of any foreigner caught up in the drug business.

Some conclude that attempts to rattle such taboos invariably lead to an outpouring of pent-up racist hatred. It is therefore safer, they argue, to keep racism battened down like a Stephen King mutant lurking in the cellar. That is why the Government of Helmut Kohl is refusing to consider double citizenship laws and is afraid of letting Turkey into the EU.

But the sensible way forward is to address these fears rather than hide behind a wall of inhibition. What are the implications of Germany becoming a multicultural society, of recognising that Turkish youths who have grown up in Germany can have an allegiance to Germany?

All this entails serious thought and public discussion about German and European identity. Sadly, Germany can cope with only one debate at a time and the anxiety of the moment is the impending loss of the mark. The European Commission's response — to open a racism monitoring unit in Vienna — completely misses the point.

Dictators plotted invasion of Rock

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

FURTHER evidence of a plot between Hitler and Franco to capture Gibraltar early in the Second World War has been disclosed in classified Foreign Office documents released by the Public Record Office.

In a letter to Hitler dated September 22, 1940, which was acquired by British intelligence, the Spanish dictator wrote: "The first action of our belligerency must be the occupation of Gibraltar." General Franco also told Hitler that he had been secretly planning an invasion of the Rock "for a long time".

Hitler made it clear that he was prepared to send German assault troops "under Spanish command" to occupy Gibraltar and told Franco that, once the Rock was under Spanish control, the Royal Navy would be unable to operate freely in the western Mediterranean.

Military files from the Spanish Government's archives, made public in March, also disclosed that Franco was considering invading Gibraltar and that he ordered military commanders to draw up detailed plans.

Hitler also drew up a plan to invade Gibraltar, called Operation Felix, under which heavy guns and tanks would have been deployed through Spain. But Franco decided against allying himself with Hitler and Gibraltar remained a strategic base for the Allies.

Hitler's plan was aborted after Franco insisted that only Spanish troops be involved and that his reward for supporting Germany should be French Morocco and the Oran area of Algeria.

Gloomy French take heart from lovelorn hero

A century on, Cyrano remains a nation's role model, writes **Adam Sage**

FRANCE yesterday celebrated Cyrano de Bergerac's centenary amid calls for a renewal of his swashbuckling spirit to combat the prevailing gloom.

The first performance of Edmond Rostand's play featuring the long-nosed Gallic romantic took place on December 28, 1897, and was an instant success.

The anniversary yesterday will confirm Cyrano's status as one of France's greatest fictional heroes and a role model for his unhappy compatriots, according to François Huster, the latest in a long line of actors to play the role.

France 3, the equivalent of BBC2, will devote its programmes this evening to the lovelorn warrior, showing three separate versions of Rostand's play as well as a documentary about the work. Press coverage has been almost as extensive, with the weekly *Le Journal du Dimanche* yesterday describing Cyrano as "the most moving figure in French drama". Several theatres, including three in Paris, are to stage the five-act play tonight.



Antony Sher in the current production of Edmond Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac* at the Lyric Theatre

Commentators are drawing parallels between contemporary France and that which greeted Rostand's production with adulation a century ago. Then, Cyrano not only overcame the disadvantage of his ugly nose to win the heart of the beautiful Roxane, but he also lifted the morale of a nation still smarting from defeat in war at the hands of Prussia almost 30 years earlier. Critics seized on the performance to remind readers that Cyrano enshrined historic but forgotten Gallic qualities such as chivalry and courage.

Today, as France goes through another of its periodic bouts of despondency, this time induced by unemployment and the fear of globalisation, a new Cyrano is required, according to M Huster. The actor, who is playing the role at the Chaillot Theatre in Paris, wrote in *Le Figaro* on Saturday: "Cyrano revealed to men, women and children the best way of conceiving of life: by waltzing through it. If France learnt to waltz through today, perhaps she would be in better form. Yes to the France of panache, yes to the France of love. Cyrano's fireworks will never fade."

M Huster rubbed a little of the sparkle off his hero this autumn, however, when he wrote a book pointing out discrepancies between Rostand's Cyrano and the 17th-century poet, Savinien de Cyrano, upon whom the character was based.

The fictional figure comes from southwest France, a hard-drinking, easygoing region that has a place in all French hearts, and he is troubled only by noble and pure sentiments. Savinien lived in the well-to-do but rather unattractive outskirts of Paris and had more material concerns, notably his wealth, M Huster wrote.

Yet most of this was known on the opening night last century, and it did nothing to dampen public enthusiasm. The actors took nine curtain calls after the first act and 40 after the final curtain. The author was given the country's highest honour, the Légion d'honneur, on the spot.

One critic, Emile Faguet, wrote: "The opening night was a theatrical triumph greater than anyone can recall. At each verse, we applauded for a quarter of an hour." Pierre Santini, another of the actors playing the role in Paris, said Cyrano remained a source of inspiration. "He was part of a system of pure values. And this system is one which children, adolescents and adults, who are sometimes big children, like to have, or would like to have."

The success came as a surprise to the 29-year-old Rostand, who wrote the play as a throwback to earlier French glories and expected it to be a flop. Rostand filled the work with tales of daring, death and romance, setting it in the 17th century. Before the opening performance, he apologised to the actor, Coquelin, for "dragging you into a disastrous adventure."

Now all French actors aspire to the role, and none can claim to have won over his compatriots until he has mastered it. Gérard Depardieu, perhaps the most famed contemporary French actor, sealed his reputation by playing Cyrano in the 1989 film version directed by Jean-Paul Rappeneau.

London is meanwhile also hosting a production of the play, at the Lyric Theatre, starring Antony Sher.



Gérard Depardieu in the latest film version of Cyrano in which he sealed his reputation with his compatriots

Royal Commission on Long Term Care for the Elderly

Call for Evidence

A Royal Commission has been established to consider the funding of long-term care for elderly people. The Commission, to be chaired by Professor Sir Stewart Sutherland, will carry out its work in about 12 months. It will have the following terms of reference:

"To examine the short and long term options for a sustainable system of funding of long-term care for elderly people, both in their own homes and in other settings and, within 12 months, to recommend how, and in what circumstances, the cost of such care should be apportioned between public funds and individuals, having regard to:

- the number of people likely to require various kinds of long-term care both in the present and through the first half of the next century, and their likely income and capital over their life-time;
- the expectations of elderly people for dignity and security in the way in which their long-term care needs are met, taking account of the need for this to be secured in the most cost-effective manner;
- the strengths and weaknesses of the current arrangements;
- fair and efficient ways for individuals to make any contribution required of them;
- constraints on public funds, and
- earlier work done by various bodies on this issue.

In carrying out its remit, the Royal Commission should also have regard to:

- the deliberations of the Government's comprehensive spending review, including the review of pensions;
- the implications of their recommendations for younger people who by reason of illness or disability have long-term care needs.

The Commission's recommendations should be costed.

The Commission is asked to give opportunity to all interests likely to be affected by its recommendations to give their views on issues within the terms of reference, and in particular to users and carers."

Written evidence from interested organisations or from individuals is sought by the Commission. The Commission will consider this written evidence, and will decide what further oral evidence is required in the light of the evidence it has received. Written evidence should be sent to:

The Secretary, Royal Commission on Long Term Care for the Elderly, 7th Floor, St Catherines House, 10 Kingsway, London WC2B 6JP.

All other correspondence relating to the Commission and its work should be addressed to The Secretary at the above address. Evidence will be regarded as publishable, unless those who submit it indicate otherwise. However, evidence relating to particular individuals and their circumstances will be treated as confidential.

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Moi's party accused of buying votes

The Kenyan leader is expected to win his fifth and final term today, David Orr writes

REPORTS of widespread vote-rigging have clouded the run-up to today's general election in Kenya.

President Moi's Kanu party is accused of buying votes and voter registration cards. The cards, which must be shown at voting booths, have been bought for 500 shillings (£5) or less to neutralise ballots in opposition areas. Electors attending rallies have been given handouts of 50 to 100 shillings to vote for Kanu and more inducements are expected to be offered today.

"The process is going ahead but there have been many inadequacies," said Cleophas Torori, an observer with the Institute for Education in Democracy (IED). "There have been cases of gerrymandering and young people being unable to register to vote."

President Moi is expected to be re-elected, with Kanu dominating the parliamentary vote. The 73-year-old former teacher, in power for 19 years, is seeking a fifth and final term in office. A recent poll by the IED gave Mr Moi slightly more than 40 per cent of the vote.

Of the 14 other candidates, four stand out: Mwai Kibaki, of the Democratic Party, a former Vice-President; Michael Wamalwa, of Ford-Kenya; Raila Odinga, of the National Democratic Party; and Charity Ngilu, of the Social Democratic Party, Kenya's first woman presidential aspirant and the most dynamic candidate. The buying of voters' cards is reported to have been most widespread in Eastern Province where Mrs Ngilu has a strong following.

President Moi needs at least a quarter of the votes cast in five out of eight of the country's provinces or he could be forced into a risky second-round run-off. However, a British analyst who made accurate predictions in Kenya's first multi-party elections in 1992 estimates he will take at least five provinces.

After years of corruption, mismanagement of the economy and the decline of public services, many Kenyans want change. They would have been assured of a new direction if the main opposition parties had agreed on a single presidential candidate. But the opposition has been divided by incessant bickering.

☐ **Ethnic clash:** Three people were killed in southwestern Kenya yesterday in ethnic violence. *(Reuters)*

New beginning, page 17

JOHN COBB / REUTERS



Mwai Kibaki, one of the Kenyan presidential candidates, saluting supporters on his arrival at a rally in Nairobi yesterday attended by 10,000 supporters. Analysts predicted that he would finish second to President Moi in today's election



Kaunda: hunger strike

Protests as Kaunda weakens

INTERNATIONAL pressure for the release of Kenneth Kaunda grew yesterday as it was disclosed that the former Zambian President was growing weaker after refusing food and drink (Ray Kennedy writes).

Visitors were allowed to see him yesterday at the prison where he has been held since Christmas Day. International demands, led by the White House, have been made to the Government of President Chiluba to charge or release Dr Kaunda.

Leading article, page 21

Texas feud over bones of 'dark angel' gunslinger

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

MORE than a century after the death of John Wesley Hardin, two sets of litigants are squaring off in a Texan courtroom over the rights to the infamous gunslinger's bones.

Hardin, who killed 41 men in his brief, rollicking life, lies buried at the Concordia cemetery in El Paso, the town where he was shot dead in 1895, aged 42, by a local constable. He had given the constable a contract to kill someone, but refused to pay him.

Descendants of Hardin, however, aggrieved that his remains should lie in a place so far from home, have sued for the disinterment of his bones. They want to give him a "rightful reburial" in the one-horse town of Nixon, in south-central Texas. In so far as Hardin had a settled life, they claim, he had it in Nixon, where he lived with his wife, Jane Bowen. She is buried in Nixon, and the folk there want him to be "laid to rest alongside her".

> He was a wrathful Old Testament figure, with unbelievable malevolence

Hearings are to begin shortly at the Gonzales County court, near Nixon, after the Texas Supreme Court ruled that the lawsuit had to be conducted in a county where one of the Hardin descendants resided. This is a blow to the El Paso Historical Society, which had contended that jurisdiction should lie with a court in El Paso.

The descendant's crusade is being led by Wendle Scott, the publisher of *The Cow County Courier*, Nixon's weekly newspaper. Although not related to Hardin, he has made the reburial the focus of his life.

Mr Scott said: "We've got a pretty spot all picked out overlooking where Hardin used to live. He lived here, married here and had his children here. The only thing that happened to him in El Paso was that he got shot. He was a family man and we just want him to return to his family."

The portrayal of Hardin as a family man is rejected by Leon Metz, the author of a recent biography of the outlaw called *John Wesley Hardin: Dark Angel of Texas*. Mr Metz, who lives in El Paso and who is the principal opponent of a reburial in Nixon, describes Hardin as "a sort of wrathful Old Testament figure, with an evil so malevolent as to be unbelievable". Contrary to the account in the eponymous song by Bob Dylan (who misspells the gunman's name as Harding), Hardin was not "a friend to the poor".

He was a remorseless killer who scalped his first victim at the age of 15 and once shot a man dead simply for snoring too loudly. A Methodist preacher's son, he grew up in turbulent, antebellum Texas. He had a hair-trigger temper, gambled profusely and was partial to heavy drinking sessions.

The myth of his "decency", however, springs from the fact that he studied law and theology in jail while serving a sentence for murder.

White firms warned off black festival

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

MAJOR American corporations have been told to stop selling products related to Kwanzaa, the year-end holiday celebrated by millions of blacks.

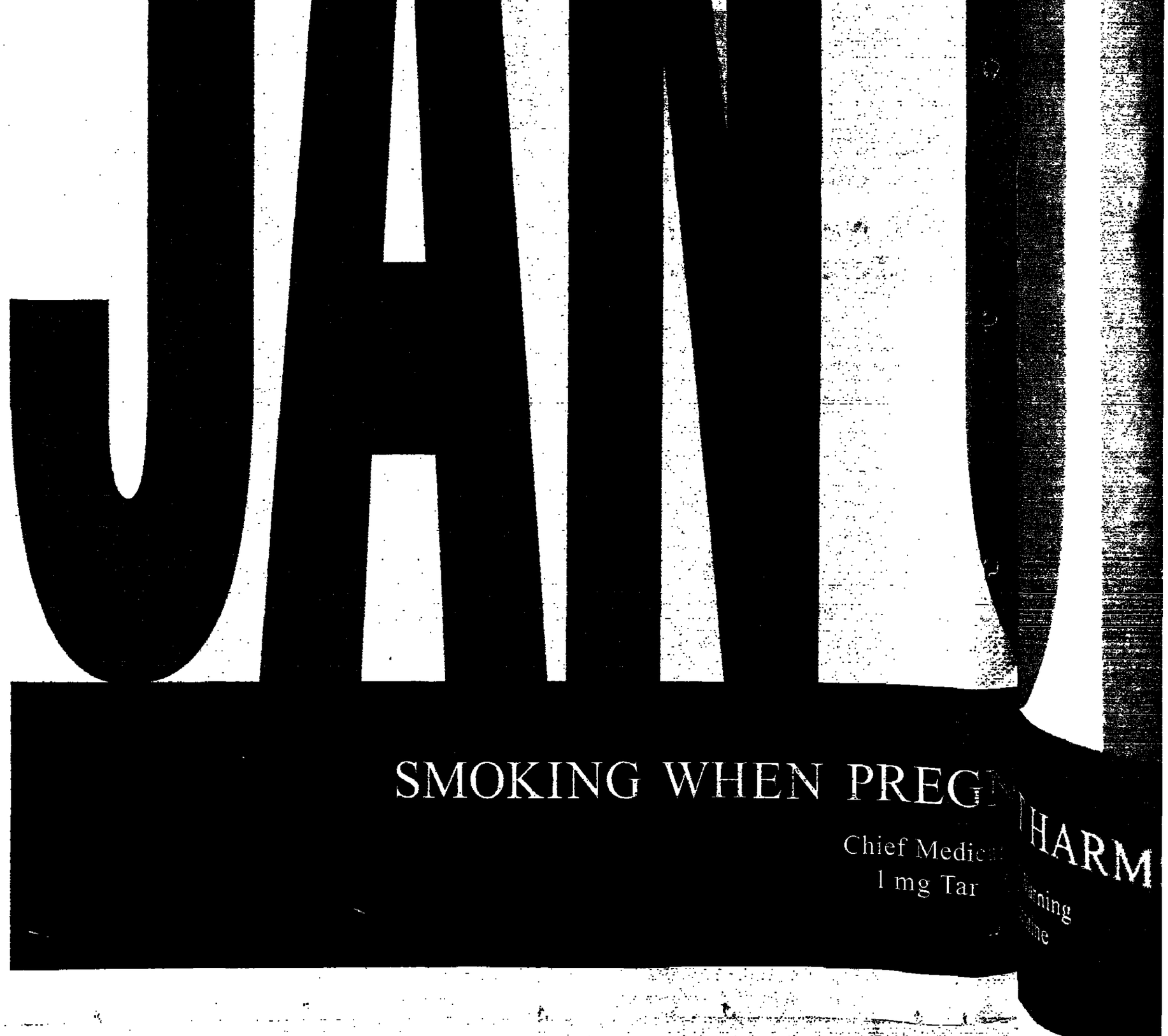
Only black firms should benefit, according to a Washington organisation representing more than 1,000 black-owned businesses. "Kwanzaa is sacred, hands off" was the warning delivered to such companies as Colgate-Palmolive, which advertises toothbrushes with best wishes for a healthy Kwanzaa, and Hallmark Cards, which has millions of Kwanzaa cards in the shops.

The sale of Kwanzaa products by companies "not of African descent" is "arrogantly exploitive of the culture of African people", said a statement from the International Black Buyers and Manufacturers Expo and Conference. Ayo Handy-Clary, a member and a company executive, said: "It's not business as usual for other races to market our culture and sell it back to us."

The protest reflects an intensifying dispute over the commercialism of Kwanzaa as it expands from a home-grown cultural and social celebration into the mainstream marketplace. Many blacks feel that Kwanzaa's principles are being obscured and black owners of small businesses are losing out. Others acknowledge that, as demand increases, the supply of Kwanzaa products is inevitably greater in a free market.

Kwanzaa — Swahili for first fruit — was started in 1966 by Maulana Karenga, a black-power advocate and now chairman of black studies at a California university. He says the idea is for people of African descent to gather with food, hand-made gifts and entertainment, and celebrate seven principles: unity, self-determination, collective work, co-operative economics, purpose, creativity and faith. President Clinton said these principles "ring true not only for African-Americans but for all Americans".

His comment brought a blistering response from the *New York Post*. Citing the President's support for "co-operative economics and collective work", an editorial asked: "Does Bill Clinton usually sound like a Communist, or just at Kwanzaa time?"



هكذا من الأصل

Hong Kong gripped by avian flu fear

VINCENT YU / AP



A press photographer at the wholesale poultry market in Hong Kong yesterday protects himself against inhaling possibly infected air as fears of avian flu grew. Sales of chickens, which traditionally are a mainstay of Cantonese cuisine, have plummeted during the crisis

Vendors are blaming the calamity on Britain, writes **James Pringle**

THOUSANDS of Hong Kong smallholders will be affected by today's draconian culling of 1¼ million chickens, including those only raising chickens for home consumption. The mass killing is causing concern not only among those who stand to lose money. Some are even blaming the outbreak on the late departed British.

Yesterday, the *South China Moning Post* said in an editorial that the "compulsory slaughter of all birds now in *Hog Kong might turn out to* be a case of taking a sledgehammer to crack the wrong nu

ast Wednesday, Hong Kog temporarily stopped importing chickens from the southern Chinese province of Guangzhou.

hinese fear of infection has led to the reduction of sales of chickens by 10 to 20 per cent in southern China, although Chinese authorities say that no trace of the virus has been found on the mainland.

This drop in sales caused some Chinese vendors to call the avian flu a calamity left behind by the former British rulers. "The purpose is that they [the British] did not want to see China becoming strong," one vendor said.

China normally sends about 75,000 chickens a day to the territory. Now chicken prices have plunged in both Hong Kong and on the mainland as sales fall, although officials have said that it is safe to eat well-cooked chicken.

In Hong Kong, hundreds of people, some with flu or cold symptoms, queued up at medical facilities to be tested as the *level of anxiety mounted since* Christmas. Victims stricken by avian flu show the same symptoms as other kinds of flu, including fever. The virus attacks the respiratory system as well as other organs.

Medical sources say that the virus appears to be spread by direct contact with infected chickens.

If there were human-to-human transmission, analysts say, this would cause serious concern over the Chinese new year period at the end of next month, when millions will be on the move between Hong Kong and the mainland and within China itself.

Israel hunts down rightwingers who plot a 'holy war'

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

THE Prime Minister of Israel, Binyamin Netanyahu, says his Government is cracking down on Jewish right-wing *extremists plotting to spark a* holy war with the Muslim world.

His statement comes in the wake of the capture of two Jewish men who allegedly planned to desecrate one of Islam's most sacred sites.

"The Israeli Government is taking determined action against lawbreakers trying to offend Muslim religious feelings, and the Government will take action against anyone who tries to instigate a religious war," Mr Netanyahu said. Police have detained two Jews without trial, *claiming they* planned to throw a pig's head on to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem's Old City, during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which begins on Wednesday. The area holds al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock and constitutes the third holiest site in the Islamic world after Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia.



Netanyahu: action on lawbreakers

"If this plan would have been put into action, I think a lot of blood, both Jewish and Arab, would have been spilt on the Temple Mount," Jerusalem's police chief, Commander Yair Yitzhaki, said.

The Palestinian Authority also expressed concern and called on Israel to confiscate weapons from Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Suppressing settlers, halting their daily attacks and confiscating their licensed and unlicensed weapons is an urgent necessity to guarantee that these extremists will not *carry out an aggressive, crazy* action to destroy the peace process," the authority said.

Hassan Tahboub, the Palestinian Religious Affairs Minister, said he appreciated the efforts of the Israeli police in capturing Avigdor Eskin and Haim Pakovitch, who were remanded in custody on Friday for another seven days. "There are still a lot of people out there with the same intentions," Mr Tahboub said.

Eskin has been arrested a number of times on suspicion of incitement to violence. He was *sentenced* in July to four months in jail for placing a Jewish death curse on Yitzhak Rabin a month before his assassination on November 4, 1995. He was also reported to have once worn a pig mask *to greet* Rabin during the Prime Minister's visit to Moscow, earlier that same year.

☐ Court order: The High Court ordered police to provide details of methods used to interrogate the detained relative of an Islamic militant who is one of Israel's most wanted men, the suspect's lawyer said. *Police have been* questioning Fuad Koran since December 10 in an attempt to track down Adel Awadallah, who Israel suspects of building the bombs used in a series of suicide attacks in the summer by the Islamic group, Hamas. *(AFP)*

Raiders hack to death 21 Algerian villagers

FROM REUTERS IN PARIS

ATTACKERS hacked to death 21 Algerian villagers, including seven children, and abducted seven other children, Algerian newspapers reported yesterday. Seven other people were killed in bombing attacks and gunbattles elsewhere in Algeria, they added.

The seven children, aged from two to nine, three women and 11 men were killed in the Ouled Moussa area, 37 miles south of Algiers. The assailants dismembered the victims' bodies with axes and set their homes ablaze before escaping unchallenged, the police said.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the killings, the latest in a series of massacres over the past 12 days in which more than 200 villagers have died. The Government, which has made no comment on most of the killings, normally blames Muslim guerrillas, and the authorities have acknowledged that they cannot prevent the killings in remote villages.

The Algerian newspapers quoted a senior general as last week telling survivors of massacres in the Tiaret region that villagers had to choose between joining pro-government militias or moving.

Dozens of abducted civilians, mostly women, have later been killed and their corpses dumped by roadsides or into wells, according to the authorities. In the Boumerdes area, *25 miles east of Algiers*, troops shot dead three suspected Muslim guerrillas in an hour-long gunbattle on Saturday, according to *Liberté*.

The latest civilian killings came after President Zeroual on Saturday named 48 people to sit in the upper house, sealing the parliamentary dominance of his supporters.



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Villagers flee slavery at site of massacre

Mexico has charged a mayor with murder, writes **David Adams**

CONVOYS of troops, church workers and volunteers have gone to the rescue of hundreds of Mexican peasant villagers held in near-slavery by the same armed groups that are blamed for the massacre of 45 people a week ago.

The convoys, led by heavily armed soldiers, drove deep into the mountains of the southern state of Chiapas at the weekend to escort about 1,500 frightened Tzotzil Indians from at least three villages. "They were subject to forced labour and extortion and they lived in fear," said Pablo Romo, a Dominican priest and human rights activist and one of the organisers of the convoy to the village of Los Chorros, which served as a base for the gunmen.

Villagers being evacuated said the police had done nothing to stop the terror, which culminated in the shooting of 45 people, most of them women and children, in the nearby hamlet of Acteal on December 22. Some of the dead had been attending a pre-Christmas Mass. Jacinto Arias Cruz, the mayor of the Chenalho municipality, which includes Acteal, was charged at the weekend with their murder by the Mexican Attorney-General.

The evacuees were taken to Polho, a tiny village populated mainly by supporters of the left-wing rebels of the Zapatista National Liberation Army. Red Cross workers in Polho said that as many as 3,500 people may be making their way there, some walking along dirt tracks from distant communities.

Wet, ragged and barefoot refugees, mainly women and children, streamed into the town on foot in the rain, mist and cold, shivering and carrying their belongings in coffee sacks. Villagers huddled on a trail outside Los Chorros scrambled on to canvas-covered army trucks as soon as they appeared, handing children and baggage into the hands of the soldiers.

Soldiers lined the roadside and occupied the town square in Los Chorros to prevent the return of gangs armed with automatic weapons, who residents said were still lurking in the hills above town. The gangs began forming and arming themselves in March, and exploited farmers in this lush coffee-growing area.

Farmers said the gunmen waited for peasants to plant and care for the delicate coffee crop, then took the harvests. Residents reported being forced to pay "fines" of 5,000 pesos (£350) for the right to live unmolested.

Some members of the rescue effort thought that political motives were foremost in the systematic harassment by the "PRI-istas", supporters of Mexico's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI).

The massacre has deeply embarrassed the government of President Zedillo, and the PRI, which has ruled Mexico for almost 70 years. The arrest of Señor Arias Cruz, a PRI member, strengthens earlier allegations that the massacre was planned and carried out by local party loyalists. The mini-exodus from the region, as well as the army's weekend mobilisation, also provides a much broader picture of the level of official intimidation by local party bosses.

Mexican newspapers have reported that in the days before the bloodbath, villagers from Acteal tried to warn local officials of their fears of attack by the paramilitary groups. The Roman Catholic Church also called state police to report gunfire in Acteal just after the attack started.

Some survivors identified the attackers as linked to Señor Arias Cruz's office. On Saturday night, Señor Arias Cruz was charged with providing the weapons used in the massacre, and then trying to cover it up. About 40 others, some of them supporters of the mayor, have also been arrested and charged in connection with the killings.

At a press conference, officials said Señor Arias Cruz lied to investigators about his knowledge of the bloodbath, claiming only to have learnt of it a day later.

But other evidence, including written records of the incident, indicate that he may have been informed much earlier. Officials also allege that the mayor tried to cover up the killing by meeting some of the gunmen to concoct a story.



Peasant refugees near Acteal, where 45 were killed

KAMAL KISHORE / REUTERS



A Delhi family wrapped against the cold at the weekend. Temperatures fell to 4C

Delhi bonfires fight chill but fuel pollution

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

DELHI is exceptionally cold, slum dwellers are dying, and the air is toxic from a million bonfires of leaves, old tyres, rags and torn-off tree branches. Nothing unwanted and combustible is safe from the fires of the poor.

India's capital is probably the world's most polluted city, especially in winter. The law says that vehicles must have an exhaust-emission test, which has done little more than provide a new source of revenue for the small but determined band of petty extortionists known as traffic policemen. Their job is so popular they have to pay a bribe to get it.

There are only eight traffic police officers for every 10,000 vehicles in Delhi, so it is possible to drive drunk without insurance, to charge through red lights, knock down cyclists and pump clouds of exhaust fumes into the air with a reasonable guarantee of impunity.

The city administration does make gestures at controlling pollution. One of the most familiar sounds and smells of Delhi, emitted from hundreds of thousands of shops and homes at some point in most days, is produced by small generators. These noisy, dirty machines are being banned by the Supreme Court — theoretically, anyway, since it is hard to enforce anything in India.

The generators burn paraffin, and during lengthy power failures the fumes hang thick and blue in shopping centres and residential areas, forcing many people with respitory problems to flee until the power comes back on.

The Environment Ministry is urging hotels, public buildings and hospitals to instal solar panels — almost unheard-of in India — in the hope of saving electricity and cutting generator use. Even the western state of Rajasthan, parts of which boast more hours of sunshine than anywhere in the world, has all but ignored the potential for solar energy.

The power crisis makes it impossible to do business in most Indian cities without some kind of back-up, be it generators or large batteries to drive fans and keep the lights on. The initial investment in solar energy regarded by most Indian companies as too expensive.

The toxic dangers of Delhi make it increasingly difficult to recruit diplomats. Some Western embassies have warned their staff that it is dangerous to jog. Others have elevated Delhi to almost the highest "hardship post" ranking, in one case to a category just short of a war zone.

The Indian Government acknowledges that Delhi probably ranks number one in the world for filthy air.

The city has nearly two million two-stroke scooters. But the Government makes matters worse by substantially subsidising diesel, ensuring that most of Delhi's vast number of taxis, and many private cars, are diesel-driven.

Skull gives clue on mustachioed heiress

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE decade-old mystery of a mustachioed heiress may be starting to unravel after the discovery of a skull in the septic tank of her rambling Victorian home on Rhode Island.

Police have launched a murder investigation into the disappearance of Camilla "Butch" Lyman, a wealthy Bostonian who bred champion cocker spaniels and liked to dress up as her late father.

Miss Lyman was once a well-known figure on the dog show circuit in America. Heartbroken by her father's death from cancer in 1968, she began to wear herringbone jackets and Western-style bolo ties, and took steroids intended for her dogs to enable her to grow a moustache.

By the time she vanished in 1987, she had become such a recluse that no one reported her missing. Her best friend, George O'Neill, an accountant who was the sole beneficiary of her will, said at the time that she frequently left home for long periods without telling anyone.

A fellow dog-breeder, Mr O'Neill maintained Miss Lyman's house and cared for her 58 dogs in her absence. He still lives in the vicinity.

When she failed to send Christmas cards, her brother and two sisters became concerned and hired a private investigator. But after six years' work, he failed to turn up any hard evidence of foul play. A probate court had previously declared her dead.

The case took a new twist recently when Greg Siner, the current occupant of Miss Lyman's 40-acre estate in Hopkinton, Rhode Island, close to the Connecticut border, noticed a foul odour coming from the septic tank and decided to investigate. "I looked in and there was a skull looking at me," Mr Siner said.

Police retrieved a human skeleton which they believe is that of the missing eccentric. According to one report, the body was weighed down with breeze blocks.

"People don't just stuff themselves into cesspools," said Mary Margaret Gedale, Miss Lyman's sister. Police are refusing to discuss any leads in the investigation.

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Yeltsin women take share of power in the Kremlin

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

THE Kremlin's male-dominated world is being slowly but noticeably eroded by powerful women who wield enormous influence behind the scenes at the court of President Yeltsin.

According to several Kremlin insiders, the ageing Russian leader, who is recovering from his latest illness, is spending increasing time with his family who, in turn, are having a greater influence on the affairs of state. Boris Nemtsov, the Deputy Prime Minister and an energetic reformer, confirmed earlier this month what many people suspected, that Russia is not so much a modern democracy as an old-fashioned monarchy.

"I once referred to Boris Yeltsin as 'Tsar', and that was not by accident. The powers wielded by the current President are not inferior to those of a constitutional monarch," Mr Nemtsov said. "The court does exist. The court makes decisions and sometimes mistakes, like any court." While emphasising that Mr Yeltsin remained his own master and made his own decisions, Mr Nemtsov said his entourage was very influential.

Two of the key figures to emerge are Naina Yeltsina, the President's wife, and Tatyana Dyachenko, his daughter and aide, who have escaped from the traditional confines of the kitchen and nursery over the past 18 months. The most noticeable figure is Mrs Dyachenko, who was brought in as a political novice to help her father's re-election and was instrumental in shaping his successful Western-style campaign last year. A former space engineer with two sons, one of them studying for his A-levels at Winchester, she appears to have inherited some of her father's canny instincts.

"I remember seeing her when she first became involved in politics nearly two years ago," said a Russian official who meets her regularly. "She was shy and uncertain of herself. Now when she arrives at the Kremlin, you know you are up against someone serious. She has all the trappings of power: the cars, the bodyguards, the clothes. When she attends a meeting you know who is in charge. She is a real little princess."

Mrs Dyachenko rarely gives interviews. When Mr Yeltsin is ill she is one of the few people who has regular access to him. When his key advisers fall out, her opinion can determine the winner, as happened recently when Anatoli Chubais, her former confidant, was stripped of most of his powers in a confrontation with her ally, Boris Berezovsky.

Mrs Yeltsina, who prides herself on keeping the family home and not interfering in her husband's work, is far less intrusive, but wields more subtle power. During a recent visit to the Urals town of Yekaterinburg with Hillary Clinton, the two First Ladies were greeted at one point by complaints from angry unpaid health workers. To the surprise of the accompanying press, the Russian leader's wife promised without hesitation that she would personally make sure that their wages were paid in full.

In another sign of influence, she and her daughter were behind the appointment of Viktoria Mitina, a minor political figure but longtime family friend, to the powerful position of deputy chief of staff of the Kremlin administration.

Talk of the influence of the Yeltsin women is greeted with dismay and denials by the Kremlin. The leadership is acutely aware of the huge damage caused to Mikhail Gorbachev's popularity by his overbearing wife, Raisa.

Nevertheless, details of the lives of the First Family are not likely to remain secret for long. The President's former bodyguard has written a damaging exposé about their private life, and now Natalya Konstatinovna, the family's former press secretary, is bringing out a book called *A Feminine View of Kremlin Life* to be published next year. She concedes that the family has become more important than ever to Mr Yeltsin.



Dyachenko: now at ease with mantle of authority

NEWS IN BRIEF

Britain honours Russian

Britain yesterday honored Marshal Ivan Konev of Russia, one of the century's greatest commanders (Michael Evans writes). On the centenary of his birth, George Robertson, the Defence Secrety, wrote to his widow to express British gratitude for her husband's part in Hitler's deat.

Sri Lanka bomb

Colombo: A suspected Tamil Tiger guerrilla lorry bomb exploded prematurely in southern Sri Lanka, killing three would-be assassins of Cecil Tissera, commander of the navy, police said. *(AI)*

Dogs eat woman

Luneville, France: A local man returned home to find his ten dogs devouring the body of his wife in their bedroom. The dogs were shot, but examination revealed the woman had died of natural causes. *(AP)*

Gas pipe deal

Ashgabat: Iran, Turkey and Turkmenistan are to build a gas pipeline through their countries to Europe after a deal was signed in this Turkmenistani town, helt will handle the work. *(Ai*

Official hold-p

Philadelphia: Daniel Dlin, the Republican Mayor of Upper Darby Borough, ear here, has been charged with robbing a local bank of $500 (£900) by pretending to aller that he had a bomb. *(Reur)*

Pisa experts plan new angle to save tower

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

SCIENTISTS trying to prevent the Leaning Tower of Pisa from falling over have decided to attach two 300ft steel cables to the monument while its foundation are being shored up.

The latest plan for the bell tower was announced by Professor Michele Jamiolkowski, the co-ordinator of an international committee of experts looking after the structure. The cables, 2-4in thick, are to be installed when work begins on the tower this spring.

The "guy ropes" will be attached to the tower's second loggia at about 60ft. They will be moored to a base and attached to a counter-weight with variable loads of up to 100 tonnes.

The work on the foundations is designed to reduce the lean of the tower by half a degree from the perpendicular. Professor Jamiolkowski said this "would be enough to guarantee tranquillity for hundreds of years".

When the cables are in place, the experts will remove earth from under the north side of the monument, which leans towards the south. Subsequently, ten underground anchors weighing 100 tonnes each will be attached to the base of the tower.

هكذا من الأصل

In search of humanity

Steven Pinker's life is spent investigating the brain and what it means. Interview by **Anjana Ahuja**

JUSTIN SUTCLIFFE



Steven Pinker explains why inner-city children are afraid of snakes, why people like art and why poor young men are murdered over trivial incidents

If he were invited to travel through space using a *Star Trek*-style transporter, which would allow his body to be transferred molecule by molecule to a far-off place, Professor Steven Pinker, director of the Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, would decline. "When I am reassembled," he asks worriedly, "would it be the same me? How do I know I won't become a different person?"

I have no such qualms. After all, am I not simply composed of atoms, molecules and chemicals, which somehow combine to endow me with a sense of self? When I am recreated exactly, won't the Ahuja consciousness magically reappear? Professor Pinker is incredulous: "How do you *know that*? Nothing would persuade me to go in it."

Professor Pinker spends much of his time pondering such thought experiments, in an attempt to steer a course through what many see as the choppiest scientific ocean of them all — the human mind. Like other neuropsychologists, he is driven by the fact that the essence of humanity is bottled up somewhere in our grey matter — without our brains, we would be bereft of consciousness, language and emotions. Without this intricate web of neurons, synapses (the nerve links between neurons) and the frenetic choreography of electrical impulses that transform our thoughts into actions, we would not be blessed with our sense of individuality.

This is why the brain presents such an awesome challenge — any investigator must embrace and reconcile such disciplines as chemistry, biology, psychology, personality disorders, artificial intelligence and human behaviour. In his new book, suggestively entitled *How the Mind Works*, Professor Pinker has interwoven discoveries in these areas to try to sum up how our brains function.

With wit and humour, his book explains such disparate phenomena as why inner-city children are afraid of snakes, why people like art and why poor young men are murdered over trivial incidents. He concludes that we will never resolve the big philosophical questions such as why we are here.

Professor Pinker, who will deliver a Times-Dillon lecture next month (see coupon below), readily admits that the book is a scholarly appraisal of other people's thinking: he claims just 10 per cent of the book as his own. Nonetheless, he stands alone in his talent for explanation. The evening before our meeting in his stylishly spartan third-floor apartment off Harvard Square in Cambridge, Massachusetts, he gave a talk at one of the graduate schools. He drew a record audience — people lined the walls and crowded the aisles.

His fame began with his 1994 book, *The Language Instinct*, which argued persuasively that the human facility for language is inborn, not acquired. Praise focused on literary style as well as intellect, and on his unpretentious manner, youthful looks and penchant for jeans and cowboy boots rather than suits and brogues. But he remains surprised at his success. "I lost a bet last night," he admits. "Howard Gardner [the host] bet me it would be a sellout. I didn't believe him." His MIT research still focuses on language — he is studying its development in twin babies.

Three tenets are central to *How the Mind Works*: that the brain is an information processor; that it is the product of evolution over thousands of years; and that it is compartmentalised, so that different chunks carry out specific tasks. The three concepts — a kind of cerebral trinity — have been aired before, but never drawn together in such a cohesive way.

As the Harvard audience discovered, Professor Pinker's cerebral trinity proves remarkably adept at resolving almost any enigma of human nature one cares to throw at it. Children in cities are frightened of snakes, even when they have never seen a real one, because human beings are preprogrammed to be frightened of them. When humans were hunter-gatherers, snakes posed a genuine threat. The brain evolved to associate snakes with fear, and this fear has persisted.

> 'Evolution is the reason why we love junk food'

Professor Pinker says: "We possess emotions that we don't really need in modern society, such as a fear of heights, so we must have acquired them earlier. We still have a thirst for revenge, even though we live in a society with rules and laws for punishing people. When two poor, young men trade insults over a pool table, all they have to hang on to is their reputation. And rather than lose face, they'll pull a gun. That's why people get killed over the most trivial things. They kill to preserve their honour, which is a very primitive thing to do."

Similarly, disgust is a universal human emotion. When we are babies, we are willing to put anything, including insects and faeces, in our mouths. That eat-anything philosophy changes just a few years later. While some think we learn disgust from our parents, Professor Pinker argues that everyone is born with the neural circuits for disgust, and the circuits "set" during childhood. They could have evolved, he says, as a means of protection — they stop us eating matter that could harbour nasty germs.

"Evolution is the reason we love junk food," Professor Pinker continues. "Our ancestors couldn't get enough sugar and fats, but since the development of agriculture, those tastes have been our undoing." Given long enough, he thinks, our brains will deduce that too much junk food is bad for us, and adjust our palate to crave fruit again.

If we are preprogrammed to experience certain emotions and react to the world around us in particular ways, where does that leave free will? "It's like geometry," he says. "Free will is a fictional construction but it has applications in the real world."

He believes that our behaviour has the *appearance* of being motivated by free will, but that in reality the "decisions" we make are the result of biology — which set of competing emotions is winning the tug-of-war. For example, when deciding whether to end a love affair, one might want to weigh up the need for independence against the desire for a companion.

"There are so many levels of complexity between our molecules and our behaviour that it is useful to think of free will," says Professor Pinker. Indeed, he has reportedly signed a six-figure deal for a book provisionally titled *The Blank Slate*, dealing with his assertion that people are products of nature, not environment.

But even though he believes free will is an illusion, he does not believe his life is dictated by genes — Professor Pinker, 43, and his second wife, Ilavenil, have chosen to remain childless, which goes against the idea that everything in life is directed towards propagating one's genes.

Not all our actions can be so clearly rationalised. There are other pursuits that seem quite unnecessary to survival but enhance our quality of life, which Professor Pinker deals with in a final flourish of a chapter called *The Meaning of Life*. What are the origins of such subjects as art, literature, humour and music? He can speculate why many people adore Turner's landscapes — they might evoke the same pleasure our ancestors felt when they came across a particularly lush habitat.

What about abstract art? We prize it precisely because it is useless — to possess useless art is a mark of status, because one is "in the know", and shows that we are so well-fed and well-clothed that we can lavish money on frivolous objects.

"We depend on garbage men but our lives wouldn't be much different if there were no musical conductors, abstract artists and theoretical physicists," Professor Pinker says. "Yet these people are thought of as following noble pursuits." He thinks that we will eventually solve the enigma of why music and humour move the spirit.

But there is one enigma we shall never solve, says Professor Pinker. Philosophy, he declares, is a riddle to which there is no answer, and our attempt to rationalise the world is merely a by-product of the brain's capacity to process information: "Our brains force us to see the world in a certain way, and we find it hard to turn them off. We can't help but worry about these problems, but we will never answer them."

That is where religion comes in, Professor Pinker thinks, although he sees no personal need for religion. He has found his own peace in the idea that the most enduring of human mysteries, consciousness, so intimately linked to the brain, will remain unknowable. "When you scrape away the physical problems, there is still this leftover nugget called consciousness that we can't explain."

That is why he could never be persuaded to get into the transporter — his physical body may be reconstructed in its entirety, but there is no guarantee that the Pinker consciousness will go with it.

"The big philosophical questions will never be answered by us because our brains are not capable of solving them. And I don't hanker after an explanation because we can understand the human brain without it."

THE TIMES

DILLONS

HUMAN SCIENCE FORUM

What makes you the way you are?

WHAT determines human behaviour? This controversial question will be debated by two of the world's leading scientists, Steven Pinker and Steven Rose, at a forum on Wednesday, January 21.

Professor Pinker, arguing that what people do is largely determined by their genes, offers provocative theories, including his belief that parental upbringing has little influence on the personalities of children. But Professor Rose believes that human beings are able to shape their own lives and that to assume otherwise is socially and politically dangerous.

Chaired by Dr Susan Blackmore, the forum at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1, at 8pm, marks the publication of Pinker's *How the Mind Works* (Allen Lane, £25) and Rose's *Lifelines* (Allen Lane, £20). The admission price of £10 (concessions £7.50) includes £2 off the price of either book.

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Tiny turbines replace batteries

Soldiers pack jet power

AS ELECTRONIC devices get ever smaller, one thing does not change: the bulky, heavy batteries needed to power them. A research team at Massachusetts Institute of Technology plans to change all that, by designing turbines the size of a shirt-button, capable of producing 10 to 20 times as much power as a chemical battery.

The tiny turbines will operate on the same principle as a jet engine, drawing in fuel and air, compressing the mixture, and burning it to drive the turbine and compressor. Linked to an equally small generator, it could produce electricity cheaply and effectively. The immediate aim, supported by a $6 million grant from the US Army Research Office, is to provide individual power packs for soldiers.



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

The key to generating power from such a small turbine is high rotation speed, 2.5 million rpm or so. That means high stresses, so the first job was to ensure that the tiny rotors would not disintegrate. To their surprise, Dr Alan Epstein and colleagues found fewer problems than they had expected.

Because very small pieces of material are less likely to have flaws than larger ones, they are proportionately stronger — and that means they can be spun faster with a lower risk of fracture than conventional turbines. Other scaling effects — such as the viscosity of the air, which is proportionately greater the smaller the device — also turned out to be less of a problem than expected.

So far, the team has demonstrated a combustion chamber 2 millimetres long, and made the button-sized turbine rotor out of silicon, using the same kind of fabrication techniques as are used for making computer chips. *Technology Review*, MIT's magazine, reports that they are now testing the low-friction air bearings that will allow the rotor to spin fast.

The actual device will need to be built of more heat-resistant material than silicon — probably silicon carbide. The aim is a power plant weighing less than 1 gram and generating 10 to 20 watts of electricity. Of course, the user would also need to carry around a fuel tank, but an engine as small as this will not use vast amounts of fuel, so even allowing for that it should still be more portable and powerful than batteries.

Ultimately the tiny turbines could be mass-produced just like computer chips.

Twinkle-toed dinosaur claws its way to record



AN Argentine dinosaur-hunter has announced the discovery of the largest raptor ever found, with a claw more than a foot long. Dr Fernando Novas of the Museum of Natural Sciences in Buenos Aires found the creature, which he calls *Megaraptor*, in northwest Patagonia. When alive 90 million years ago, it must have cut a daunting figure, more than 30ft tall.

Raptors were two-legged dinosaurs equipped with sharp claws for attacking prey. The largest previously known, *Utahraptor*, was found in the Moab Desert of Utah in 1991, but *Megaraptor's* claw is 54 per cent bigger. And unlike *Utahraptor*, the new dinosaur does not belong to the Dromaeosaurids, of which the most famous example is *Velociraptor*, the deadly hunter featured in *Jurassic Park*. Dr Novas believes it derives from a more primitive dinosaur branch.

The shape of its foot is the giveaway, *Science* reports. While *Velociraptor* had a short, stocky foot, the better to withstand the force of using the claw, *Megaraptor* had delicate feet. How they wielded such a huge claw remains a mystery, and the whole question of raptor locomotion may now have to be rethought. A full description will appear soon in the *Journal of Vertebrate Palaeontology*.

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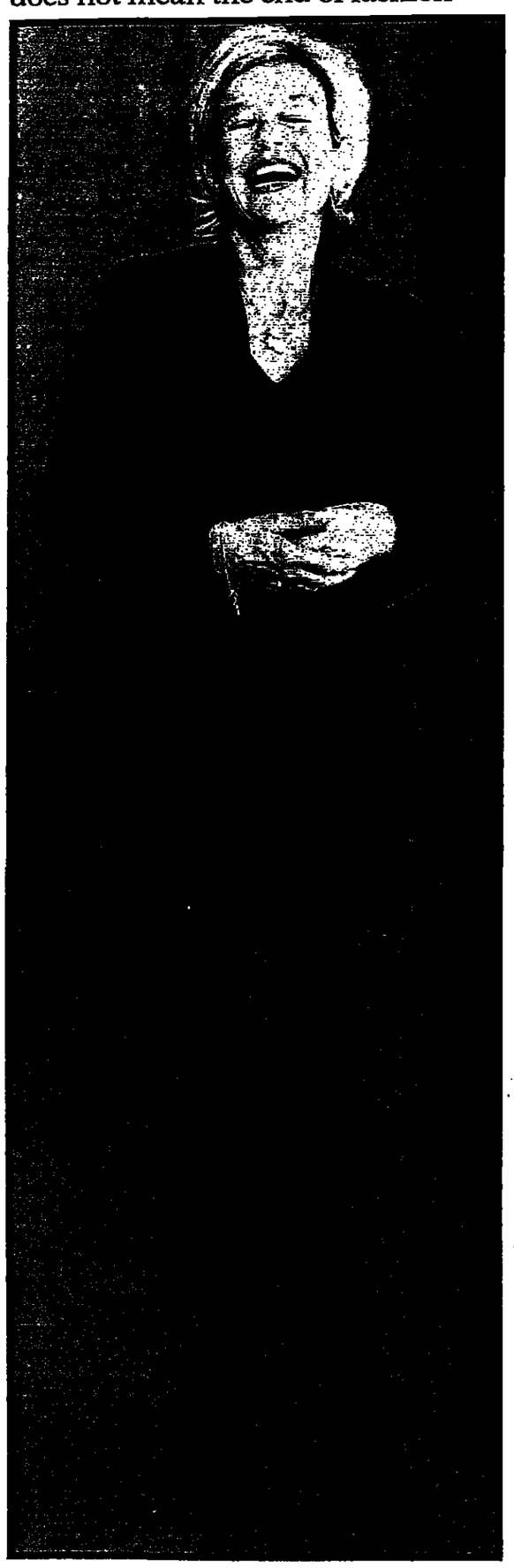
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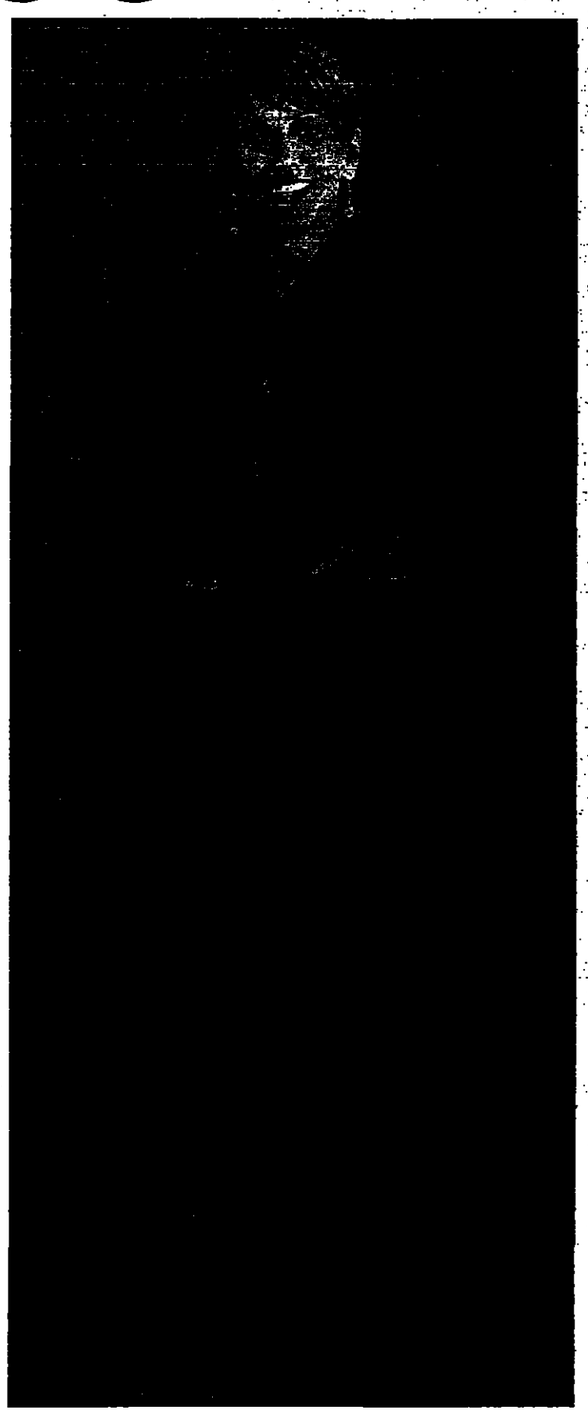
How to carry on looking great

Midlife à la mode

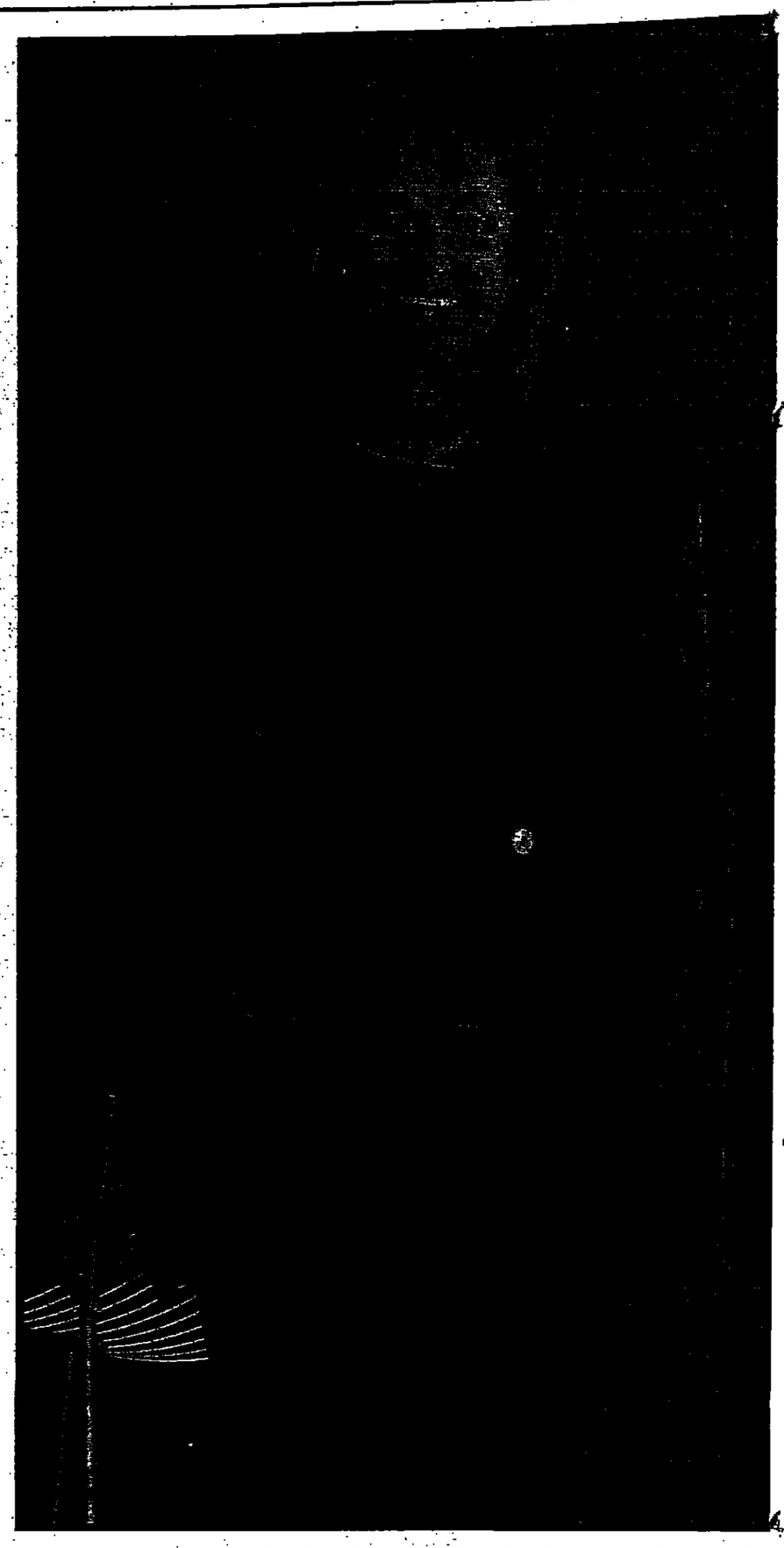
Four women tell Style Editor **Grace Bradberry** why middle age does not mean the end of fashion



Juliette wears a pinstripe mini, £25, and jacket, £60, by Miss Selfridge, 221-223 Oxford Street, W1, 0181-910 1359. Black stretch V-neck, £69, by Joseph, 77 Fulham Road, SW3, 0171-590 6200. Black suede boots, £175, by Bertie, 36 South Molton Street, W1. Inquiries: 0171-935 2002



Dotti wears a grey single-breasted fitted jacket with a fake-fur collar, £495, and matching trousers, £150, by Georges Rech, 181/182 Sloane Street, SW1, 0171-235 3343. Chocolate suede shoes, £85, by Bertie



June wears a brown and camel check one-button jacket costing £225, and matching trousers, £199. Her blue and gold devoré shell top is £159. All clothes shown are by Patsy Seddon, 28a Kensington Church Street, W8, and at Phase 8, 47b George Street, Edinburgh. Inquiries: 0171-371 5656

Eternal youth may still be some way off, but we already live in an era of postponed ageing. Women, whose mothers seemed middle-aged at 40, now reach 50 and still don't look as if they have reached *un certain âge*, as the French put it.

"Someone said to me the other day, 'Middle-age is like the afternoon — it only exists if you notice it'," comments Dotti Irving, the 47-year-old chief executive of Colman Getty, the literary publicists.

More important than not noticing middle age, however, is not having others notice it in you. Dotti has made few concessions to age. She has always worn close-fitting clothes to define her petite figure (she is 5ft 2in), has always owned a lot of black, enjoys brightening it up with a few strong colours. It is a style that can be consolidated rather than changed.

Yet, for some women, shopping undoubtedly has to change as they grow older. Those who were dedicated to following every trend, or who enjoyed a brazen mode of dress, inevitably have to make adjustments. Lapses of taste become more noticeable with age. But does dressing tastefully have to mean abandoning individuality? And must the bills go up and up as high street clothes look too young, too frumpy, or too cheap?

We invited four women, aged between 42 — which no one now would consider middle-aged — and 55, to choose outfits that would develop rather than radically change their personal styles. With the help of the stylist Kathryn Samuel, they waded through rails of clothes, ranging from Miss Selfridge to Georges Rech. The clothes they chose were not outrageous. They were simple and well-cut, but all had an element of individuality.

Dotti picked out the most expensive outfit, a grey trouser suit with a fake-fur collar, from Georges Rech, which cost £645. It might be a lot of money, but this is the sort of chic but slightly quirky suit that would work well in the world of publishing.

"I certainly don't always wear designer labels," says Dotti, "but I'm always on the lookout for things that will see me through from day to evening. My work involves a lot of parties, so flexibility is important."

Next up was June Kronenberg, a 55-year-old personal trainer, who spends most of her life in Marks & Spencer fitness gear. "When I'm not working I wear a lot of trouser suits. Whistles is a favourite shop, and Joseph and Emporio Armani. I'm not a bright-colours person, so my wardrobe is full of black, white, cream and beige. It's nothing to do with age — I haven't changed my style for years."

She chose a Patsy Seddon trouser suit, enlivened by a devoré top by the same designer. "I'd buy that for sure," she says. "The colours are very fashionable." She also tried on a new exercise outfit from Elle activewear, marketed as a "young" label, but clearly suitable for any reasonably toned figure.

But the biggest surprise was in the make-up. "Jochen [the make-up artist] used very light foundation. To my surprise, it was more flattering than the heavy foundations I tend to use."

The youngest of the four, Sara Robinson, 42, a partner with the Family Law Consortium, would be horrified to be described as "in mid-life", let alone middle-aged. In many ways the challenge facing her has nothing to do with age — it's about evolving a style that befits her position without being stuffy.

"It's important that the profession should present a human face, particularly in family law," she says. "So I try to strike a balance. I need to look professional but I don't want to appear forbidding."

She was surprised when a chic black shift dress with a side split turned out to have a Debenhams label (it was from the Pierce II Fionda range, new this season). The Georges Rech suit was more conservative than she would have normally chosen, but it was low-key and would put clients at ease.

Bargain of the day was undoubtedly Juliette Dunn's pinstripe suit from Miss Selfridge at £85. "I do go in there every now and then," says Juliette, a 52-year-old fashion-design consultant. "Sometimes the fabric is good and has a bit of stretch. A lot of my major buys do come from good labels. I love Irié for example. But I fill in with pieces from the high street. You've got to be discerning and they've got to be simple. I mix expensive and cheap things. I always buy expensive shoes and handbags."



Sara wears a black shift dress £120, by Pierce II Fionda for Debenhams, from branches nationwide, 0171-408 3536

Photographer: ROD NISSEN-PETZER
Stylist: Kathryn Samuel
Hair: Helen Bannon
Make-up: Jochen Fuchs

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My challenge of a lifetime

Midlife à la mode

Margaret Speedie is 50 and is about to go to Antarctica. By **Margareta Pagano**

DAVID ROOTES



Go with the floe: the Antarctic Mission's objective is to research and gather data on the correlation between pollution and the melting of the icecaps

Margaret Speedie is an absolute hoot. She once went to buy thermal underwear but came away with an orange silk shirt. She used the wrong eye when learning to film and had the cameraman in stitches. She has cropped her hair and dyed her eyelashes, so she will not have to worry about smudged mascara at sea.

She bubbles throughout the train ride from Edinburgh to Bathgate, her singsong lilt so hypnotic that it is rude to interrupt. She has spilt out her entire life story by the time we reach her home.

Her children are in their twenties. One is a PE teacher, the other works for Scottish Conservation. Bobbie, her husband and the love of her life for 30 years, works shifts at a factory.



Margaret Speedie

She has never left them for more than two days at a time nor has she been further south than Majorca. She reckons she is a toughie from sleeping wild as a child on camping trips but she laughs: "What on earth is it going to be like living with five strange men on a boat in the roughest seas in the world?"

Margaret does not wait for a reply but chatters on, sorting out the piles of maps and guidebooks around her at the table in her spotless kitchen. She pauses. She lets out an excited "Whooa whooa" and flaps her hands across her chest, as though to compose herself. "This is my chance, my challenge of a lifetime," she says softly.

Next Sunday Margaret begins a four-week expedition to Antarctica. She flies from Edinburgh to Manchester, from there overnight to Santiago and then to Punta Arenas, the southernmost tip of Chile. Here she transfers to a tiny Twin Otter plane to fly to King George Island to be greeted by the explorer Robert Swan. He is the only man to have walked across both Poles, and is responsible for beckoning Margaret from the shelter of this rather bleak mining town where she has lived comfortably most of her life.

This is no Shirley Valentine-type adventure but a geographic mission to one of the most awe-inspiring and beautiful places on earth. The expedition, organised by Robert Swan's company, One Step Beyond, is to research and gather data on the correlation between pollution and the melting of the icecaps for the Scott Polar Institute and the Proudman Oceanography Institute.

She will board the *Pelagic*, a 16-metre ice yacht, and meet the crew with whom she will sail on Mission Antarctica.

She is relieved that the expedition leader is Dr Misha Malakov, a Russian hero with eight polar missions under his belt. His speciality is the effects of polar conditions on the human body. Also on board will be Skip Novak, a veteran of four Whitbread races.

"I felt better when I heard they were involved," she says. However, she, too, will be a full working member of the crew, even taking part in the watch rota.

Their first task is reconnaissance at Bellingshausen, filming the mountains of rubbish left behind by countries such as Russia and Bulgaria when they vacated their base camps after the 1991 treaty banning mineral exploration. Then they sail through the Gerlache Straits, where they will see fur seals, hump-backed whale and penguins and set up experiments for Proudman that are part of a 50-year programme to measure sea-level changes. These results are being collared to help the scientists to establish whether it is natural climatic changes or man-made pollution that is causing the ice to melt.

But it is her return journey that may be the most exacting — four days sailing across the Drake Passage and up around Cape Horn to take them back to Ushuaia in Argentina for the flight home.

Margaret's own voyage began last July when she received a postcard showing a penguin standing alone on the Antarctic ice. On the back was the question: "The next challenge . . . interested?"

She was immediately tempted, filled in a caption for the penguin and returned it to the sender, her employer, Standard Life, the giant Edinburgh insurer, where she works as a call operator for customer services.The penguin reappeared some weeks later in an article in Standard Life's house magazine, with details about Robert Swan and his work with Mission Antarctica. Standard's workers were invited to apply to join the mission.

Swan had given such an inspiring lecture to Standard's employees earlier in May that the head of UK operations, Jim Stretton, agreed that the company should sponsor two people to take part each year in the explorer's five-year programme.

Margaret knew from the beginning that she would go. "A few days after I saw the article it was my 50th birthday. It all seemed to fit. I looked at the pictures, at the boat, at what the mission was about and thought this is for me. Even the age profile — 20 to 60 — was right.

"I knew I would be able to do the presentation work, the talks, the visits to schools and local groups afterwards. I just had to do this," she says.

To persuade Swan that she should be part of his team, Margaret had to make a short film explaining why she wanted to go. Then in October she had to present a ten-minute slide show telling her life story, which, in her words, is one of "basic working people who work hard and try to bring up their children decently".

"While the children were young I worked only as a dinner lady so that I could be there for them. I am still working because it's necessary, not for luxuries but because I have to," she says.

So why was Margaret chosen out of 120 applicants? "Antarctica wants you dead," says Swan. He knows: "I changed as a result. I was arrogant when I first went there but it knocked it out of me.

"There is a myth that only macho can cope with Antarctica. If you have that image, you are going to die. The power of the place will beat you."

Women are generally more tenacious, says Swan, who was impressed by Margaret as soon as he saw her on film. "Although she is incredibly jolly you can feel her sense of self-sacrifice, humility and great strength. The message she will have to deliver will be forceful. She wants to give something back," he says.

"She is saying that life is only just beginning at 50, that she is prepared to do something brave with her life," he adds.

Margaret is already messianic about the trip. "I knew I had a place, almost from the start I was calm although I walked straight into a glass door after Jim Stretton told me I had made it to the final two," she says.

Just before Christmas she had her first sailing experience on the western coast in seas as daunting as anything she may experience down south.

"At times I was perpendicular to the boat. I threw up. But I did it, and had some lovely bruises. I am glad it was difficult," she says.

Naturally, Margaret cares about Planet Earth. "I'm probably green in the real sense — naive," she laughs. "I remember Richard Baker on television in the 1970s terrifying me with stories about climate change and pollution. I remember having diarrhoea watching them.

"Having children kept me busy, and I guess I didn't think about it all much until recently. I do all the easy things, such as recycling bottles and newspapers. I know it is nothing compared to the big issues."

Margaret has been involved at a local level with conservation work. A few years ago she chaired a project that planted hundreds of trees in a new nature park behind the council estate where she lives.She worked closely with the Scottish Conservation board, and giggles when recalling a speech she had to give alongside Magnus Magnusson to a Scottish National Heritage meeting.

"A friend told me to imagine the audience was a sea of balloons. It worked brilliantly. I talked for ten minutes with only a few bullet points on a card, and loved it," she says.

Despite her euphoria, Margaret is not blind to the enormity of what she is embarking on, but nor is she scared. "It is awesome, that's all I can say. I will just put up with whatever happens — I am very resilient," she says.

"We don't need all the comforts that we have around us. I am just an ordinary person but a committed one, who likes to make a difference. I see things through. I don't take the easy option."

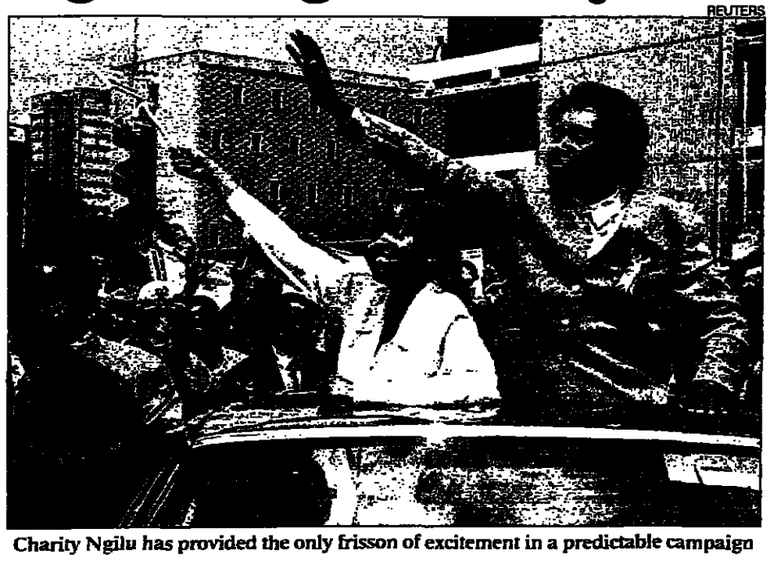
Her husband, Bobbie, has been sitting quietly by throughout. He says anyone who knows Margaret would not find her decision to go at all strange. "She is extraordinary," he says. He is right, and if anyone should follow in the footsteps of those other great explorers polar, it is this delightful and lively woman.

Those interested in following Mission Antarctica can find information on www.onestep.tandem.com

Can this woman bring a new beginning to Kenya?

David Orr on Charity Ngilu, the first female presidential candidate

REUTERS



Charity Ngilu has provided the only frisson of excitement in a predictable campaign

The slogan on her campaign poster is *Mwanzo Mpya*, which means a new beginning in Swahili. Behind Charity Ngilu's smiling face is a clock with the hour hand at six and the minute hand just past twelve.

"What's this mean: three minutes past six?" snaps an American journalist on the Ngilu campaign trail. "What sort of a slogan is that?" He had failed to grasp the symbolism of the African clock which makes the start of day six o'clock. Maybe he was just tired of waiting for Ngilu's notoriously unpunctual convoy, which was running four hours late.

Today Kenyans go to the polls to elect a Government and a President. It will certainly be the dawn of a new era if they vote in Charity Ngilu, the country's first female presidential candidate. This is no Ireland or Norway. The fiercely patriarchal world of Kenyan politics is dominated by men and particularly by President Moi who, after 19 years of executive power, is seeking a fifth term in office.

It is unlikely that Mrs Ngilu, 45, will become President this time. But that is not the point. This businesswoman and mother of three has provided the only frisson of excitement in an otherwise predictable campaign. She has made it possible to believe, if only briefly, that the last of Africa's old-style autocrats could be toppled.

"Kenyans need a leader with a vision and an agenda," she says in Malindi on the coast. "Kenyans are looking for sincere, honest leadership. Until now leadership has been too dictatorial, too rigid."

Mrs Ngilu speaks with a fluency and authority rare among Kenyan politicians. Compared with the septuagenarian President, she is eloquency itself. Undoubtedly, she learnt her oratorical skills from her father, a minister in the Ebenezer Gospel Church.

Mrs Ngilu was one of only five women out of 200 MPs in the last parliament. It is women — whose traditional roles are housekeeping, planting and childrearing — who often hold the most conservative views. And even if they secretly admire the pluck of Mrs Ngilu, when it comes to polling day they will usually vote the way they are told by their husbands.

Hence Mrs Ngilu's wariness of seeming too emancipated. In a recent interview for *Finance* magazine (Charity Kaluki Ngilu: the First Woman President in Africa?), she was asked what she did in her spare time. "I consider cooking an important function for every wife," she replied. "As long as I'm at home, I make sure I'm involved in the preparation of meals and serving my family, particularly my husband, and guests. Further, I love preparing and choosing what clothes my husband will wear for the day."

But Mrs Ngilu is as tough as she has to be. When a government officer in charge of voter registration was found fiddling the forms, she marched up to him and grabbed him by the lapels. Such assertiveness is needed in Kenyan politics. On her left arm she bears the scars of a recent attack.

"We were out campaigning," she says. "The police told us it was safe to continue down the road. But, after a little bit, we were surrounded by youths with knives and clubs. We were lucky to get out alive."

It was the second such incident during her campaign and Mrs Ngilu has no doubts that she is the victim of a government plot to get her out of the way. Standing for the Social Democratic Party, she says she is seeking a one-term mandate to clean up a system riddled with corruption and inefficiency. She vaunts her lack of experience as an asset: "The experience I don't have is that of mismanagement."

Mrs Ngilu went on to start a bakery and a plumbing-supply company after studying business administration at college. Her eldest daughter is studying electrical engineering in Britain.

"The President has ruined the economy of the country," she tells the crowd at the Malindi rally. "We used to have free healthcare and good education during the time of [Kenya's first President] Jomo Kenyatta. We used to wear nice clothes, but now we can only afford *mtumba* [second-hand clothing]. Is that the sign of wealth? We are not managing our resources properly."

Mrs Ngilu is from the minority Kamba tribe and, this being Kenya, she can rely on strong support from her own ethnic group. Being a woman, she believes, goes some way towards helping her to transcend the crushing tribal barriers.

As one of Mrs Ngilu's running-mates puts it, many Kenyans are so poor they can be bribed for little more than the price of a soft drink. Mrs Ngilu's answer is: "Take the money but vote for me."

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هكذا من الأصل

Two poets laureate joined by 2,000 years

MELVYN BRAGG



Ovid completed his *Metamorphoses* — which has since streamed through European culture — at about the time of the birth of Christ. I read the most recent translation while celebrating and thinking on that birth. What could be made of this coincidence of imperishable literature and lasting glory?

Ted Hughes's new working of the *Metamorphoses* is without doubt the most exciting, addictive collection of poems in English written in recent and not so recent times. They may well be the masterpiece of a poet whose profligacy and magnificent unfashionability have made him the object of sneers by some etiolated critics whose swotted degrees make them think of themselves as the arbiters of good writing.

They are mere midges. Hughes is a great poet. He can be bad, he can be poor, like all great poets. But at his best he can be called in with the very greatest — even with Wordsworth, our third poet, and sometimes with Milton, our second. Here, through Ovid, he challenges Shakespeare. Read Hughes's Ovid and know the depths of our inheritance. I am not a pundit, but for my last column of this year let me push out the boat and guarantee that, like me, you will be awash with awe and newly alert understanding about the deep springs of our culture.

We are talking about the cave of Ali Baba, and so I will concentrate merely on the first few pages of Hughes's translation. I know that this is a technique beloved of lazy reviewers, so I assure you that the Pyramus and Thisbe who end Hughes's book are just as refashioned in his words as the opening pages.

But in the beginning is excitement — not in narrative as we see in the story of Phaeton or Echo and Narcissus, or the Rape of Proserpina, or Tiresias (the most provocative analysis of sex ever printed) — but the excitement of the old joining hands with the new.

In short, Ovid's opening piece — *The Four Ages* — could be read as a preview of contemporary cosmology. Before I begin to quote, I am well aware that Hughes's version is his own re-creation: in his translation of *Semele*, for instance, he uses the phrases "nuclear blast" and "general deterrent". "Photon" also occurs, as well as other terms which must have been foreign to Ovid. Hughes wants to convince us now of Ovid, and by all the gods he does. The point is to make it work for us.

Space makes its miserly demands and so I have to be brief but in stanza two Hughes translates:

Before sea or land, before even sky
Which contains all,
Nature wore only one mask —
Since called Chaos.
A huge agglomeration of upset
Air was simply darkness.
Everything fluid or vapour, form
formless
Heat fought cold, moist dry, soft
hard, and the weightless
Resisted weight

A few lines on he writes:

Land, sea, air were all there,
But not to be trodden or swum in

Is this gravity? Newton is 1,600 years ahead.

And one last tag to show Ovid's Archimedean insight into a science which the Greeks might have invented.

Also resonating —
Each one a harmonic of the others
Just like the strings
That would resound, one day, in the
dome of the tortoise

Come in Pythagoras and the numbering of the Universe and musical harmony.

I know that Ovid's gift to Chaucer and particularly Shakespeare is what makes him as immortal as any mere writer can ever be. But this insightful cosmological beginning gives me as much pleasure as the amazing stories of Semele and Tiresias. Stories of gods becoming humans becoming animals becoming gods becoming water becoming trees becoming monsters. All the world seems to be in Hughes's Ovid, from the description of the Beginning, which vies with Hawking and Genesis, to the profound psychology of the violent passions of the gods and their subjects.

I wanted to couple this great book — the best present I have ever bought for myself — with the morning service in a plain Anglican church in the valley below the cottage in which I have lived for 27 years. It is a tiny church with a graveyard still only half full and in which I hope to be buried, surrounded by the Cumbrian fells.

There were about 50 of us there at the 10am Christmas morning service. Fifty just about packs the church. We severally, I assume, believed in the child born in the year of the *Metamorphoses*. Just as amazingly as anything in Ovid, but also echoed in him, we worshipped an immaculate birth, a resurrection and a life to come.

For that hour, we defied our world of hot politics and blood-exciting scandals and listened to words which, like those of Ovid, have somehow percolated down 2,000 years. We listened also, as it happened, to a two-month-old child brought to the church by her young mother, muttering and occasionally crying aloud, a text as powerful as the deepness of Ovid. Both bringing us tidings of who we really are.

A conductor's own mystical mastery tour

Not even a very public heart attack kept Mariss Jansons from accepting fresh challenges. **John Allison** reports



The increasingly spotted Mariss Jansons in his natural habitat, fluently directing one of the great orchestras of both Europe and America

For one of the world's leading conductors, Mariss Jansons is a very unassuming, down-to-earth man. Grand gestures may be a tool of his trade, but he uses them sparingly. When it comes to melodrama on the podium, though, none of his colleagues can match him for the display he put on during the closing minutes of a *La Bohème* in Oslo nearly two years ago: gripped by a heart attack, he sank slowly down but continued directing the performance. Even he cannot remember how he kept going.

When he suffered a second heart attack a few weeks later, his career was quickly written off. After all, his father, the distinguished Soviet conductor Arvid Jansons, had died of heart trouble, and the punishing demands the profession makes are not for the unfit. Plans were put on hold at his record company, EMI, which had made him its Artist of the Year, and at the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, where he had just signed up as music director in succession to Lorin Maazel.

But the stocky Jansons, now 54, bounced back. He has spent most of this year driving himself as hard as ever, and his diary for 1998 is full, beginning with a Rachmaninov recording in St Petersburg. "I feel fit," he said when we met in the autumn. "Everybody tells me I must be careful, and I understand. But I don't want to go out on stage with the feeling that I must hold back. That's psychologically terrible — I wouldn't be able to conduct."

Much of the coming year will be devoted to Pittsburgh, and there will also be visits to the other premier league orchestras with which he enjoys close relationships, the St Petersburg, Berlin and Vienna Philharmonics. But the centre of Jansons's professional life remains Oslo, the city he has put on the international musical map during his 18 years with the Philharmonic there.

> "I don't want to go onstage feeling I must hold back"

Jansons, who turned a provincial orchestra into one of the world's top bands, is to Oslo what Rattle is to Birmingham and Slatkin is to St Louis — and more. When we met, in Vienna, he and the Oslo Philharmonic were enjoying a mini-residency at the fabled Musikverein. In a city as chauvinistic about music as Vienna — Sibelius's Fourth Symphony, for instance, has still to be heard there — such an invitation is almost unheard of.

Jansons, a regular visitor to the Musikverein, beamed with pride at talk of the Oslo Phil's residency. "It's a great moment in our lives, a great honour. Yes, we've played here before, but this is different, perhaps our biggest challenge ever."

Although they were performing Grieg and some contemporary Norwegian music, the challenge was partly self-imposed — their programmes were dominated by Haydn, Beethoven, Bruckner and Mahler, composers about whom the Viennese are especially proprietorial.

"It's artistically very good for the orchestra," Jansons said. "Everybody is out to prove themselves. It helps that there is a special atmosphere in the hall, an energy I can't explain. It's mystic."

"Mystic" is indeed a word that has been used to describe Jansons's presence on the podium. He is one of the very few modern maestros with the old-fashioned charisma that transforms an orchestra's playing. Naturally, he is in demand everywhere, and the question of how much longer he will remain with Oslo cannot be avoided.

"Oh, it's a very difficult question. I've put half my working life into the orchestra; so much effort that it has become like a child. But I have to ask myself how long one can stay with an orchestra; I don't think it will be forever. When work becomes routine and loses its freshness, then you definitely have to leave.

"But even when the chemistry is still wonderful you have to remember that the rules of nature say change is good. As music director my task is always to give the orchestra something new, and that can be difficult after 18 years. The question is not if I will go, but how long I will stay."

What of the example of his mentor, the legendary Yevgeny Mravinsky, who ruled the Leningrad Philharmonic for half a century? "It was a different era. Toscanini wouldn't be able to behave now as he did then — musicians today would walk out if they were treated like that. People say there are no conductors like Mravinsky, Toscanini and Furtwängler today, but it's not so much the conductors that have changed as the orchestras and the times we live in."

Though Jansons is very much his own man, it's not hard to detect Mravinsky's influence on a conductor whose special strengths include Brahms, Bruckner, Tchaikovsky and Shostakovich. What does Jansons remember most of his years as Mravinsky's assistant?

"His rehearsal technique was incredible, his interpretations were very deep. He was a great personality, a very thoughtful man who could sit in a chair for as long as two hours and not say a word to you. That was very uncomfortable.

"He was very demanding of himself and everyone else. Players were always afraid of him, even in performance, which was not good. But I wouldn't call him a dictator. That's a completely different thing — I know what a dictator is!"

Born in Latvia, Jansons grew up under the Soviet system. It may not have been an average Soviet life — his early years were spent at the Riga State Opera, where his father was in charge and his mother a singer — but he felt the restrictions, not least when his time as Karajan's assistant in the early 1970s was cut short by a recall to Leningrad. He was always acutely aware of what it meant to be Latvian, and although he conducted at the recent reopening of the opera house in Riga he regrets that he does not work there otherwise. "I feel such pressure. They are proud of me and I can't give them anything because I don't have the time. Latvia is going through a difficult period and they think I am ignoring them. I feel terribly guilty."

Similar feelings of guilt attend his current absence from London. Since relinquishing his principal guest conductorship of the London Philharmonic to make time for Pittsburgh, he has been anxious not to offend one of the capital's orchestras by working with another. His next London appearance will not be until the 1999 Proms, and then with the Pittsburgh Symphony.

Jansons took on the Pittsburgh job because being music director of an American orchestra was a new challenge. Now he is focusing more than ever on the classic repertory, because "it is the hardest to conduct. The notes may look simple, but the most important question in music is what is behind the notes. Romantic programme music is easy, but Haydn is so abstract, it's not enough just to play everything right. I've done this core repertory before, but I'm starting a new cycle in life now, with new thoughts."

VISUAL ART: Parts of the British Museum's collection are now on show in India. **Isabel Carlisle** views the results

Substandard on the sub-continent

Marking the last lap of celebrations for the 50th anniversary of Indian independence, the British Museum and British Council have jointly created a major exhibition for the National Museum in Delhi.

Taking the theme of the human figure through the spectrum of the different cultures represented in the British Museum, it is in effect a microcosm of the museum's own displays, with graphics, captions and showcases to match. At about 300 objects it is the largest loan ever made by the British Museum abroad and, at a cost of more than £1 million, the most expensive enterprise ever mounted by the British Council in India. That this exhibition is also an act of cultural diplomacy was underlined by its joint opening by the Queen and the President of India, K.R. Narayanan.

A new context for objects inevitably provokes their re-evaluation, and to see the British Museum transposed to India, albeit in miniature, raises questions that *The Enduring Image* barely begins to address. Most strikingly, given the high quality of the objects in the exhibition and the stylish installation in newly refurbished galleries, the British Museum looks like a gallery of great art rather than cultural development.

Taxonomy — the ordering of objects along a particular line of argument to demonstrate cultural change — is no longer possible in this minimal sample and while in London the British Museum strenuously rejects the idea that it is an art museum, this exhibition reveals that, sliced a different way, it evokes a different response.

Taking advantage of this fact and the temporary liberation of part of the museum's collection from the straitjacket of its departmental organisation, this would have been a real opportunity to create a cross-linking exhibition of universal themes. Instead, the opening room announces the cultural diversity of the show but only hints at the potential for cross-cultural exploration. Subsequent rooms move strictly from Egyptian and then Western Asiatic antiquities to Greek and Roman and so on.

The earliest object is a piece of limestone with the outline of

> "The shadow of the Raj has grown a little longer"

a naked woman scratched on to it dating from the Late Ice Age, 12,000 years ago. Her rounded buttocks, accentuated by the act of bending forward, prefigure later Neolithic ideas that feminine fat is beautiful.

Equally minimal is the statue of Sennefer, from Thebes in Ancient Egypt, carved from a block of black granite. Shown sitting with his knees under his chin, his feet and arms barely protruding from the solid cube of his body, the sculpture is not a portrait, but a substitute body for the spirit of the dead man.

This is stylisation taken to geometric extremes, very different from the stylised but sensuously relaxed 13th-century Indian statue of the elephant god Ganesh with the goddess Lakshmi seated on his lap.

In Ancient Greece, where exceptional beauty was close to divinity, the statues of the gods show a race of superhumans. Hercules, who was half god, half human, is shown here in the 1st-century BC marble copy of the magnificent head of a colossal Greek bronze statue. His thick muscled neck and curled beard make him recognisable even without his regular attributes of club and lionskin.

Also in this first room are three thick gold torcs, or neck rings, from the Anglo-Saxon hoard found at Snettisham in Norfolk. Their opulence and sheer size suggest the status they conferred on the people who wore them.

There are real treasures in this exhibition, but the exclusion of paintings means that the Western tradition of portraiture is only present in a group of bronze medals by Renaissance artists such as Pisanello and Niccolò Fiorentino. Images such as Pisanello's depiction of Alfonso of Aragon, King of Naples, giving the coup de grâce to a wild boar, or the gold medal by Nicholas Hilliard of Queen Elizabeth, were as much propaganda tools as art.

The more terrifying aspects of control through fear are present as much in the engraved jade Mayan plaque, showing a ruler wearing a headdress incorporating a monster, as in the elaborate Japanese Samurai armour with a grimacing face mask.

The British Museum is full of objects removed from their countries of origin before restrictions on the export of antiquities or tribal objects came into force. It is an inescapable fact of history that these great institutions are products of cultural imperialism. To see this selection from the museum's collections in India leaves an uncomfortable impression that there has been a mismatch of sensibilities.

A fuller collaboration between British and Indian curators to produce a multi-sourced exhibition, or one that dwelt less on the British Museum's rigid departmental structure, would have done much to banish the shadow of the Raj. With this exhibition it has grown a little longer.

● The Enduring Image *is at the National Museum, Delhi, until Jan 4. It then moves to the National Gallery of Modern Art in Bombay from Feb 11 to May 3*



Grave image: a 10th-century image of Buddha, from Nepal

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Nasty but nice fairytale

EVER since its premiere at Christmas 1893, Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel* has been a regular feature of the festive season's entertainment. Ironically, it is one of the nastiest of all operas — and that is saying something — but not every production needs to address the sinister undertones of the fairytale. Palace Opera's current staging at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, aimed at a family market, attempts to show that it can work on an innocent, naive level.

The production is billed as having been "revived and revamped" by a new director, Daniel Farncombe. That just about sums it up: the revival of Acts I and II features some simple though honest stagecraft, but Act III has been mercilessly vamped up.

OPERA

[illegible] and Gretel
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Christiane Kubrick's picture-book designs for the first two acts are effective enough, and the costumes suggest the grinding poverty of the children's household.

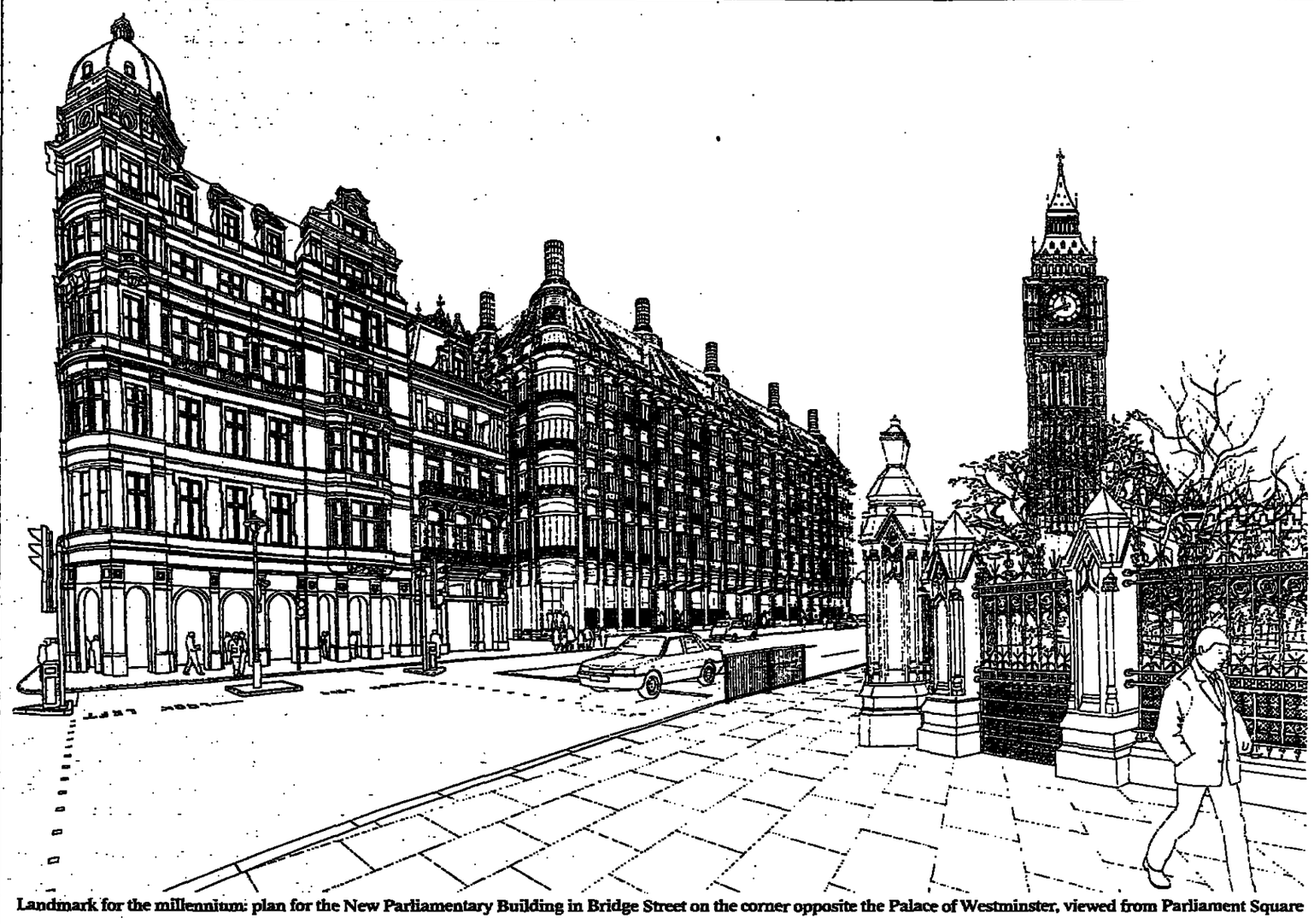
In the final act the show loses its way. The design, to extend the culinary metaphor of the gingerbread men, is seriously over-egged, and the production is similarly unfocused. No one will go along expecting a dissertation on the symbolism of putting people in ovens, but many will be let down by such an unthreatening climax to the work. The witch is tiresomely portrayed as a buxom, larger-than-life pantomime figure who muddles her way around a messy stage.

Musically, things are much more even. Jonathan Finney conducts a 20-piece orchestra (the London Concertante) in his own scaled-down arrangement of the score, which may lack some of the lushness of Humperdinck's original but fits the bill very practically. After a staid start on Friday, Finney settled down to give a fluently paced account of the score.

The strong cast was led by two credibly young-looking singers in the title roles. Joanne Edworthy's bright mezzo made her a communicative Hansel, and Jacqueline Varsey proved herself a lively performer as Gretel. Neither had quite such clear diction as Charles Johnston's well-sung Father. Jenny Saunders disclosed a pleasing, bright soprano as the Sandman and Dew Fairy. Though she was a blustery-sounding Mother, Jenny Miller played the part sympathetically, with almost too much softness. Anya Kubrick's Witch made little vocal impression, but did not detract from a musical performance that caught the unique freshness and charm of the score.

JOHN ALLISON

Thanks to Michael Hopkins, MPs will soon have an impressive new home. **Marcus Binney** reports



Landmark for the millennium: plan for the New Parliamentary Building in Bridge Street on the corner opposite the Palace of Westminster, viewed from Parliament Square

Des res with a classic view

After the notorious Dome, it is set to be the most prominent new building of the millennium. A palace of bronze, stone and glass will loom beside Parliament itself and fulfil the dream of every MP to have his or her own office.

Though the designs of the £200 million New Parliamentary Building in Bridge Street were approved three years ago, the project has been virtually forgotten as engineers disappeared beneath the ground to excavate an 80 ft hole down to the new Jubilee Line station beneath the Thames. But on January 5, the architect, Sir Michael Hopkins, officially gains possession of the site with a target to finish the building in 2000.

With the Commons debating chamber virtually empty of MPs whenever it appears on the television screen, the first big question is whether the spacious new accommodation will denude it altogether, moving the fulcrum of Commons activity across the road where many MPs already work. Hopkins firmly denies this. "We are actually bringing a larger body of MPs closer to the Commons chamber," he says. He achieves this by taking over the subway access to the Underground beneath the road and making it a secure, dedicated link for MPs while building a new public subway beside it.

"There is a historical argument for doing this. The subway was designed as a private link from Parliament to the Conservative Club which stood on the river corner opposite Big Ben overlooking the Thames."

At present MPs working in the Norman Shaw building have to go outside, negotiate the traffic, and pass through security once again whenever the division bell rings. With the Hopkins direct link, it will all be much quicker.

Parliament is often referred to as the Palace of Westminster and Hopkins has responded in magisterial style. His new building is set four square around a courtyard. He acknowledges the influence of Roman palazzos such as the Farnese, and like these its essential quality is gravitas.

He has taken the steep roofs and chimneys of Richard Norman Shaw's New Scotland Yard as a further cue, transforming them into very idiosyncratic circular chimneys, reminiscent of those on the early four-funnelled transatlantic liners. Will it be a hit with the public? Like Hopkins's new opera house at Glyndebourne and his remodelled Bracken House in the City (the old *Financial Times* building opposite St Paul's) it will be quite severe — imposing and powerful more than conventionally beautiful. Like Glyndebourne, it may look best at night when it glows from within.

> "The brief was a building that would last 200 years"

The appearance of the building is shaped by Hopkins's hatred of cladding. He believes that the structure must be the building and must be on show. The brief from Parliament was for a building that would last at least 200 years, rather than the miserly 60 that architects are often asked to provide for.

Hopkins likes to build in stone but for him it has to be load-bearing stone, not mere facing. As the building is seven storeys, the accumulated weight towards the bottom is enormous.

"In looking for a suitable stone, we found we were following the same track as the parliamentary committee in the 19th century which studied the stone for the original Parliament building," he says. He chose the Derbyshire gritstone which has been cut out in blocks at the quarry, which at the bottom measure nearly 5 ft across, with a base in granite which is stronger still. The structure is crucial because the building stands not on solid London clay but over the gigantic hole excavated to the Jubilee Line. While this was being dug, the engineers had to support the existing District and Circle Lines which run diagonally across the site. In an amazing act of conjuring, London Transport engineers managed to drop the tracks of the Circle Line by 18 inches, providing vital extra headroom for the building above.

Similarly, the two Jubilee Line tracks at the bottom swing one above the other as they pass beside the building to take vibration a few vital feet further away from the foundations of Big Ben. As a result, the construction of the Hopkins building is in some ways more like a bridge than a conventional building. The courtyard walls and all the weight they carry come down on to just six pillars sunk in the only positions available between the tracks and escalators. The weight of the building above is carried on gigantic arches supported by these columns. "All lifts and escape stairs had to be hung from the roof," says Hopkins.

One great feature of the new building is that it will not be expensively air-conditioned. "No refrigerated air," says Hopkins. Instead there will be a steady flow of fresh air cooled by water extracted from underground aquifers.

The windows are triple-glazed with a motorised venetian blind in between the glass. On the courtyard, away from traffic noise, windows open out on to balconies. For Hopkins there is no question of a building that is "Queen Anne in front and Mary Anne behind". The whole building on all four sides is finished to the same high specification. The best rooms will overlook Big Ben and the river but he insists those at the back will not be badly off. They look on to Norman Shaw's superb brickwork with a dramatic view through to an inner courtyard.

The focal point of the new building will be a glazed central courtyard with shops, cafés and extensive seating for MPs, staff and guests. After testing various designs, Hopkins has decided on a bold criss-cross timber roof covering as large a span as the mighty roof of medieval Westminster Hall across the road.

The timbers are all on the curve made up of laminated layers with stainless steel connectors. "Some of the inspiration comes from the early biplanes in the RAF museum at Hendon. They used timber for lightness with very neat metal junctions."

With air pollution at anything like today's levels, many stone buildings will need refacing after a couple of centuries. Parliament itself has been gone over extensively twice. So how will Hopkins cope when his stonework is actually holding up the roof? "It is designed so we will continue to stand even when two stone pillars are taken out."

This week in THE TIMES



■ MUSIC

Robert King and Consort conclude the year with a concert at the Wigmore
PERFORMANCE: Wed
REVIEW: Friday



■ POP

Drum and bass guru Roni Size greets the new year at Alexandra Palace
GIG: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



■ FILM

Helena Bonham Carter bids for an Oscar in *The Wings of the Dove*
RELEASED: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



■ JAZZ

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Fighting fit for the next century

There is more to a defence review than cuts, says **Michael Evans**

There is already speculation that the Government's strategic defence review, which has been running for more than four months, is going to lead to cuts in equipment, capabilities and roles. The reasoning seems to be this: if it's a proper review, it must mean cutbacks because the Treasury is watching like Big Brother.

At the third and last open seminar organised by the Ministry of Defence as part of the review, one senior MoD official asked the assembly of academics, civil servants and defence journalists for ideas about which capabilities could be eliminated. One academic suggested the Army of the 21st century could do without ranks.

This seems to me to be wholly the wrong approach. However vehemently the MoD denies that the Treasury is holding the strings, the search for weapons and capabilities which can be put on the scrapheap gives the impression that this review, like so many in the past, is all about saving money.

The Armed Forces are tired of being cut back year after year without any obvious policy direction. When the Cold War came to an end, there was inevitably a demand for a peace dividend, and the previous Government's Options for Change and Defence Cost Study produced wholesale cutbacks.

> The Forces are tired of being cut back without policy direction

Now the Labour Government is supposed to be looking ahead to the year 2015 as it restructures Britain's Armed Forces. Although it is *difficult for any Government*, even one possessed of a huge parliamentary majority, to plan ahead further than five years, there is a risk that if ministers fail to come up with a truly visionary approach, the men and women of the three Services will have to face several more years of Treasury slicing without knowing what the future has in store for them. They will leave the Forces in droves.

This review should not be about cutting the number of tanks, fighter bombers and submarines. Of course the Army will need tanks. Even if Britain is not called upon to fight a high-intensity war between now and 2015, we know that our highly prized soldiers will be asked to intervene in peacemaking or peacekeeping missions, and, just as in Bosnia, only heavy armour will provide the protection they need in all but the most benign environments.

For the next 15 years we need a strategy that focuses on Britain's military strengths, in particular its highly trained personnel, yet at the same time brings into effect a properly structured framework of expeditionary force packages — a mix-and-match of capabilities from all three Services that can be adapted to suit the different challenges.

One package could consist of an aircraft carrier, equipped with Royal Navy Sea Harriers and RAF Harrier GR7s — and in the future the Joint Strike Fighter being developed by American and British companies — escorted by nuclear-powered submarines armed with Tomahawk cruise missiles. This concept of a carrier-based mixed air group is already developing, with the deployment of RAF Harriers on board *HMS Invincible*, now operating in the Mediterranean for possible deployment to the Gulf.

Seagoing platforms that provide a landing strip for many types of aircraft, including the Army's Apache attack helicopter, coming into service in the year 2000, will enable the Government to respond flexibly to events by deploying a potent force that can act as a highly visible deterrent.

Another expeditionary package could consist of troops and tanks, backed by air power and some form of anti-ballistic missile protection. For this, the Government will need to consider the purchase of strategic lift aircraft which can carry battle tanks, such as the American C17 Globemaster. The idea of rapidly deployable Forces is not new, of course. Britain already has one such force, based around the Royal Marines and Parachute Regiment. But if the Armed Forces in general were to be structured to fit different expeditionary force packages, overlaps in capabilities could then be eliminated.

Restructuring the Forces could be expensive, but with the new priorities identified, significant changes could be made elsewhere. For example, there will be less need for troops and air defence aircraft to protect the United Kingdom. It is difficult to envisage anyone threatening these shores in the future. The Territorial Army and other reserve forces could, therefore, take over more of the home defence role.

Assuming the Government continues to pursue a peace deal with Sinn Fein/IRA, there will be no need for 17,000 troops in Northern Ireland. The Government could plan for halving that number within the next five years, relieving the MoD of the heavy burden of forever preparing a large proportion of the Army for tours to the Province.

An armoured division will have to stay in Germany for the moment, if only to make use of the training grounds now being made available by Poland and other countries in Eastern Europe. But I cannot imagine that Britain will still need a division in Germany in the year 2015, even acknowledging it is partly there to keep the Americans in Europe. An armoured brigade training for peace enforcement missions alongside similarly structured European army units would seem more appropriate.

How many submarines, anti-submarine warfare frigates and air defence aircraft we will need in the next century will largely depend on whether Russia readopts a hostile posture. At this point, however, the Government can afford to restructure radically, knowing that the warning time for a major war in Europe is about five years.

The terrestrial channels took a pasting at Christmas — but Fleming's old barbarian keeps rolling on

Still in Bond Age, after all these years

William Rees-Mogg

The fall in the ratings of terrestrial television over Christmas came as little surprise. As a preparation for our family Christmas I had bought a new satellite box; the old one had become disturbingly grumpy, refusing to recognise a couple of channels which it had taken a dislike to, and preferring costume drama in German to the History Channel in English. The new box has 125 channels, of which more than 30 provide English programmes. It has decisively changed the character of our family viewing; digital television when it comes can only take us further in the same direction. It will have a capacity of about 200 channels.

Genuine multichannel television, which a rising proportion of people already enjoy on satellite or cable, makes the same radical change as occurred in banking in the 1980s. In the old days even large companies had their bankers, though they might have more than one of them. That was called "relationship" banking. Nowadays they use many different banks for particular needs; that is "transactional" banking. Banks no longer enjoy the old customer loyalty, nor provide the same loyalty to their customers. With a 30-channel choice of television programmes, we found that we had moved, simply by buying a more up-to-date box, from relationship to transactional television viewing.

We continue to watch the news, but even there we make a choice based on convenience, depending on the time we switch on. We are still loyal to the Radio 4 news, so far as radio is concerned. Apart from the news, we choose whichever programme, on any of the 30 channels, seems most likely to be enjoyable. Not surprisingly, films win hands down. Television films obviously provide a transactional decision. There is a brand loyalty to particular films, one has a preference for films one has already enjoyed, but not seen too recently, for particular actors, or perhaps for the Bond films — but there is almost zero brand loyalty to the channel. Films will become even more dominant in digital programming.

The fall in the BBC and ITV ratings was spectacular. On Christmas Day 1996, *EastEnders* had 17 million viewers; on Christmas Day 1997 it had only 12.3 million. ITV did little better; *Coronation Street* fell from 15 million to 12.6 million viewers. Obviously many people have a loyalty to particular soaps, but these are major losses of market share. Individually, old films do not usually compete with the very high-rating terrestrial programme; the highest rating for a film over Christmas was *The Flintstones* on BBC1: that came in ninth place, though it attracted more than eight million viewers.

Yet collectively the choice of films makes much of existing television programming non-competitive, particularly now that new films are reaching satellite television earlier. Last Friday night we watched Emma Thompson's *Sense and Sensibility* — I had already seen it in the cinema. I did not find that it lost impact on a second viewing. It is an important film, which won its Oscars and deserved to do so. It is better written, better acted and better produced than any ordinary television drama could hope to be.

During Christmas week we watched a lot of good films — one is allowed a certain measure of Christmas indigestion. With the exception of *Destry Rides Again* on BBC2, where I tuned in only for the highlight of Marlene Dietrich singing *See What The Boys in the Back Room Will Have*, we watched whole films: *Crocodile Dundee*, BBC1; *Pretty Woman*, HTV; *Some Like It Hot*, Living; *GoldenEye*, Sky Movies Screen II; *Sense and Sensibility*, Sky Movies Screen 1. In their own different styles, these are excellent films, more than competitive with ordinary TV products. They all have a very broad appeal. If one includes *Destry Rides Again*, we received three of them by satellite, and three by terrestrial transmission; that matters a lot to the transmitting companies, but it made no difference to us.

Within a year or two, digital television will have made it still easier to see the film of one's choice at the time of one's choice. I do not think that the BBC will be able to survive on the licence fee basis. I paid for three of these films by subscribing to satellite channels, for two of them through my licence fee, and for one by watching, or not watching, the advertisements on HTV. The licence fee can hardly continue to be the main basis for BBC finance; the BBC will eventually have to sell its service in competition, and digital television will bring that much nearer.

Of all the films we watched, it was *GoldenEye* which seemed the most extraordinary, though not the best. There have now been about 20 Bond films; the number depends on whether you count the early David Niven or the last Sean Connery. *GoldenEye* is the penultimate Bond movie, the first in which Judi Dench plays the role of M; she is introduced as the new and efficient chief, a "bean counter", and she tells Bond that he is a "dinosaur". It is, indeed, remarkable what a dinosaur Bond is, and surprising that the secret was let slip.

I overlapped with Ian Fleming on *The Sunday Times*. In late 1960 we were both attending the editorial review of the previous Sunday's paper, which took place every Tuesday morning. Roy Thomson was in the chair as Editor-in-Chief. At that meeting Ian Fleming had his first heart attack, and was helped from the room by Denis Hamilton; in the way such things occur, I was not quite sure what was happening. That Tuesday was 37 years ago. Ian Fleming himself was born in 1908, and started work for Reuters in 1931; if he were still alive he would be in his 90th year. James Bond is not only Ian Fleming's invention, he is his contemporary.

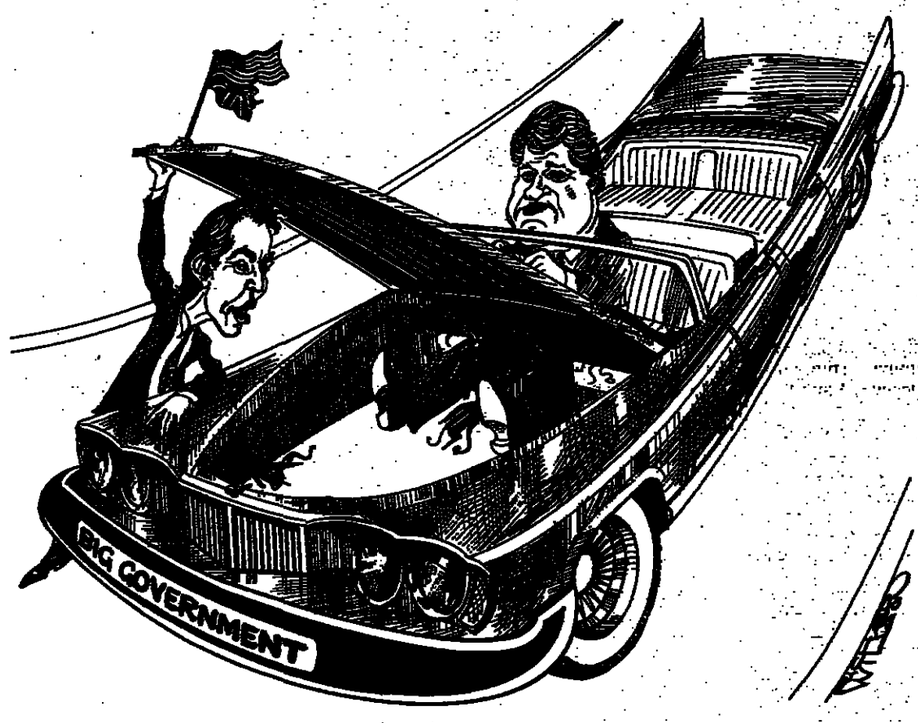
James Bond is a "private army", Second World War type of hero, modelled on the man that Ian Fleming worked with. His style is even earlier than that. His Martinis, promiscuities, fast cars and throw-away lines are the sophistication of the young men of the 1930s, which I can remember as the affectations of men a generation older than myself. President Kennedy belonged to the Bond generation. Yet Bond has maintained himself as one of the icons of an age which prides itself on being "modern", though admittedly the 1930s saw themselves as equally modern in their own time.

I do not like James Bond's values; I did not much like Ian Fleming's values. Bond is an archaic hero. Homer's *Iliad* opens with a confession that Achilles is a dangerous character. "Achilles wrath, to Greece the dourful spring of woes unnumbered," is how Alexander Pope translated it. Virgil described his hero, Aeneas, in terms of his virtues as "a man famous for piety". Traditional schoolmasters used to remark on the advance from the barbarian Greek killer hero of 1000BC to the civilised Roman founder of a nation of the age of Augustus.

With Bond we are back to barbarism. He has the virtues of courage and loyalty, but few others. He is a high technology killer, a sadistic womaniser and a pseudo sophisticate. If one met him, he would seem a sinister bore. Perhaps he is a natural hero for an age of technological lift-off but cultural confusion. Yet it is absurd that the Achilles of our thoroughly modern age should be a man born in the reign of King Edward VII. The Bond cult suggests that our age may not be as modern as we like to think.

Has the State lost its power?

Government can still be an engine of change, says **Peter Riddell**



Government is widely dismissed as too big, irrelevant in an era of globalisation, mistrusted and wasteful. It is derided, in the words of Ronald Reagan, as "the problem, not the solution". Bill Clinton, who knows better than any other politician which way the wind is blowing, famously proclaimed that "the era of big government is over". Yet the State has not withered. Redefining the role of government has become the central challenge facing Tony Blair as he seeks a "Third Way", distinct from postwar collectivism and Thatcherite individualism.

The public are deeply ambivalent, critical of government in general but attached to programmes benefiting them. The proportion of the American public trusting government to do the right thing most of the time has fallen from three quarters to a quarter since 1964. Public confidence has also declined in Britain. The annual British Social Attitudes survey (produced by Social and Community Planning Research) has shown that public expectations of what the State should do have declined since the 1980s. But there are revealing contrasts. The decline in expectations has been much more on economic matters, such as providing industry with help to grow and reducing differences between rich and poor, than on social questions such as providing healthcare or a decent standard living for the old. Beveridge has survived.

A group of political scientists from the Kennedy School of Government has weighed in with *Why People Don't Trust Government* (edited by Joseph Nye and published here by Harvard University Press). The book offers 17 hypotheses. There is agreement that trust began to decline in the early 1970s, in America the period of Vietnam and Watergate, but also, more generally, when the long post-war boom ended. There followed a long and painful adjustment. Unemployment and inflation were subsequently much higher, and economic growth lower, than over the previous two decades.

Equally important was that governments attempted, with varying success, to check the rapid growth in public spending. While the relative size of the State declined only a little on average, there were repeated tight squeezes, leading to increasing complaints of broken promises.

From the late 1970s, right-of-centre parties came to power, particularly in America and Britain, on anti-big government platforms. Politicians accepted that many social problems were beyond their capacity to solve. Together with a more questioning media challenging authority, this has stimulated mistrust of government.

The final element is that favourite buzzword of the 1990s, globalisation. Governments have been portrayed as largely impotent in face of 24-hour financial markets and the revolution of information technology. Governments have less freedom of manoeuvre than in the past in setting levels of public borrowing and interest rates. The notion of "Socialism in one country" is now ridiculous outside an impoverished fortress economy such as North Korea. And as their neighbours in South Korea, and in much of the rest of East Asia, can now painfully testify, over-expansion and over-investment are, eventually, punished by the markets. Governments are also keen to court footloose businesses in order to retain jobs. This was the rather exaggerated card that Formula One played in the tobacco sponsorship saga.

The globalisation case can be overstated, and often is. Although the scope for independent national action is narrower, governments are not powerless and can still take important decisions. Levels of public spending and taxes vary considerably. The Thatcher Government pushed through extensive privatisation and deregulation, while similar changes have met powerful resistance in France. Even the most innovative and global of companies is not immune to the power of national governments, as the battle between Microsoft and the American Justice Department shows.

The International Monetary Fund and World Bank have repeatedly stressed the importance of honest and open government. The rule of law and the absence of corruption are crucial for foreign investment.

Mr Blair recognises these shifts and constraints. A central part of his "reinvention" of Labour has been a redefinition of the role of government to take account of these changes. More than two years ago, he accepted that globalisation was changing the nature of the nation state and argued that: "The role of government is to represent a national interest, to create a competitive base of physical infrastructure and human skills to attract the capital that will produce the wages for workers and profits for investors."

There are conflicting pressures. External constraints imply tight controls on public spending and tax rates, limits on new regulations (such as the national minimum wage) and the creation of a business-friendly environment. But the public still want the Government to improve health and school standards, safety on the streets and decent provision for the old and needy. That is why the debate about welfare reform is so important. It is partly about saving money to shift expenditure to health and education. But it is much more about attitudes about what the State should do and whom it should support.

The real task Mr Blair faces in the new year is persuading his party, and the public, of the case for a more limited role for government — not as the universal provider of benefits, but as the safety-net for the genuinely disabled and needy, and in helping people into work. The squalls of the past few weeks show that, while many Labour MPs and activists recognise, if not embrace, the economic implications of globalisation, they do not yet accept the need to change the welfare role of government. This has become the crucial test of how far the Blair team is living up to its promise of governing, as well as campaigning, as new Labour.

General retreat

ROBIN COOK may stride the world stage in the company of kings, but he has met his match at work — in the form of General Jung Bahdour Koowar Ranajee. The Foreign Secretary, still struggling to impress his will on the Foreign Office, has been thwarted in his efforts to remove a picture of the general from his room.

The canvas, which dates from 1877, depicts General Ranajee, then Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief of Nepal, in full battledress and wielding a sword. When Mr Cook took office in May, he asked mandarins to replace this reminder of more barbarous times. But in a forthcoming fly-on-the-wall documentary by the BBC's Michael Cockerell, the picture can still be seen. Cook is shown telling a schoolboy that he wants the offending daub removed because it "is not the image we want to project". What's the problem? Because, he says, the only other pictures available are also "backward-looking" or "ideologically unsound".

Cook's predecessors were swifter to assert pictorial preference. Ranajee was hung in 1977 by David (now Lord) Owen to replace a portrait of Lord Palmerston. When Lord Carrington took over, he, in turn, replaced one of Owen's choices — a portrait of Oliver Cromwell — but kept the Ranajee portrait because, he says, "it is extremely decorative".



In the frame: Cook, Owen

Tony Benn, who criticised Lord Owen's swap at the time (he preferred the patriotic Palmerston) has some advice for our moral Foreign Secretary. "He should hang a picture of Gandhi there, because he believed in the principle of non-violence," says Benn. But will Mr Cook do so before he swans off to lead the Scots?

● *TOWARDS the end of the last parliamentary session, Margaret Beckett — President of the Board of Trade and caravan enthusiast — took to wearing a fetching little black and white polka-dot number. This, I regret to report, has inspired a new nickname for the hard woman of the Labour benches: Cruella De Vil.*

Slope off

AS MPs digest the last of the Christmas pudding, their thoughts will be turning to the slopes. Every winter, members of the parliamentary ski team head for Davos to lose in races against their Swiss counterparts. But not, they hope, this year: Blair's boys are on board. "We have a record number of Labour MPs coming," says Lord Astor of Hever, a Tory peer. "It is a very new Labour thing to do, after all."

The annual trip used to be a club of chummy Tories. But their star skiers, such as Winston Churchill and Phillip Oppenheim, were wiped out of the Commons by a spring avalanche, and those that remain are either tied up (William Hague and Alan Duncan) or seeking other distractions (Alan Clark).

So it will be down to Blair's blades, such as Gareth R. Thomas, the new Member for Harrow West, to rescue British pride. Out of the 37-strong party, 12 come from the Government's ranks (no Lib Dems could be persuaded to test their mettle).

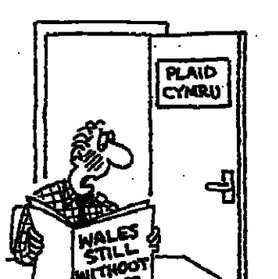
"I'm surprised that lot want to come," says the Tory MP Nigel Evans, also strapping on his goggles for the first time. "I hope they know their pagers won't work in Switzerland."

● *The Disney Company, reeling from "politically correct" attacks on its film of Mr Magoo, the myopic cartoon character, has added a disclaimer to the credits: "Nothing in this film should be interpreted as an accurate portrayal of blindess or poor eyesight."*

Good sport

WHAT do Martin Bell and Eric Cantona have in common? A great deal, according to the man in white, who — rather regretting his campaign pledge to stand for one term only — is identifying himself with the former Manchester United player's philosophy of "going out while you are on top".

The (very) Honourable Member for Tatton wonders what he will do when he bows out. "But a promise is a promise," he tells me, explaining that he is consoled by Cantona's example of "quitting while he was ahead". Neil Hamilton must be hoping that Bell does not share the Frenchman's penchant for kung fu kicks.



"After 1,000 years"

● *WE KNOW Tony Blair is a hands-on leader, but has he gone too far? A caller to the Sedgefield constituency office last week asked for confirmation that she had the right number. "You have," affirmed a familiar voice. "Is that the Prime Minister?" inquired the caller. "Well, you know, yes it is."*

Brief career

O.J. SIMPSON has decided to become a lawyer. Mr Simpson — clearly impressed with the way his defence team handled a tricky brief — is learning the law through a correspondence course. He is penniless after spending millions defending the charges that he had killed his former wife and her friend Ron Goldman, and owes Ron's father more than $33 million from a civil judgment.

"That Goldman guy is always there with his hand out," says Simpson, explaining that he is training so he can "fight Goldman and then make money from my own clients".

Alley pally

THEY know how to spoil their children in Hollywood — or so it would seem from the divorce case between Parker Stevenson, a *Baywatch* "actor", and Kirstie Alley, from *Cheers*. In his court declaration, Stevenson describes the Hallowe'en parties they threw for local sprogs: "We would hire a 150-piece marching band with six cavalrymen on horseback shooting blanks from guns. Formal dining tables would be set up with crystal place settings." The cost? About $25,000 a party. Here in Diary Towers, we have to make do with Marmite sandwiches.



Kirsty Alley: let's party

JASPER GERARD

MAZE OF ERROR

A policy that has placed Ulster's fragile peace in jeopardy

Few tears will be shed for Billy Wright, the loyalist killer murdered in the Maze on Saturday, but his death could cause many more mothers to weep in the coming weeks. Within 24 hours of Wright's death, his associates in the Loyalist Volunteer Force took callous and indiscriminate revenge, spraying a quiet hotel with automatic fire and claiming another life. The Northern Ireland Secretary, Mo Mowlam, fears "tough times ahead" but hopes that these killings will not precipitate a descent into more widespread violence. The maintenance of a fragile peace depends upon the will of those terrorists, loyalist or republican, currently observing an uneasy ceasefire, but it also depends on a sensitive and purposeful lead from a Secretary of State who must acknowledge her department's mistakes.

Ms Mowlam is right to insist on a sense of proportion. The two murders were perpetrated by fringe groups at either end of Ulster's extremes. But the problem for every party sincerely seeking peace is that Wright's death cannot be seen in isolation.

For observers on the British mainland, at a welcome distance from the paramilitary feuding, the most arresting aspect of Wright's life will have been the manner of his death. How could he have been shot dead by inmates in a prison which is supposed to be Western Europe's most secure? How, in particular, could this have happened only three weeks after failures in security were highlighted by another prisoner who walked free disguised as a woman? How can an administration which prides itself on taking the shortest way with offenders preside over a prison regime so farcically, tragically, lax?

Incompetence may play its part but the greater fault is political. One of the main "confidence-building measures" of the peace process has been a relaxation of the constraints on terrorist prisoners. The Government's supporters argue that the prisoners' voices carry special weight in paramilitary councils and the more obvious the benefits of peace for the inmates the more likely they are to argue for its maintenance. The public are meant to be reassured that, however liberal conditions are inside prison, a ring of steel separates convicted killers and potential victims. That ring of steel looks a poor thing this morning, pierced by bullet holes and porous to prisoners. The steel appears to have been bent too far to accommodate men who regard new freedoms and privileges not as incentives to good behaviour but as opportunities to exploit in a continuing campaign.

This policy has endangered the security of inmates, warders and indeed the whole Province. When Ms Mowlam meets her advisers today she must, as she wisely but belatedly acknowledged yesterday, move quickly to rebuild confidence among Northern Ireland's peaceable pro-Union majority. Many Unionists will know only too well that the INLA rarely takes so much as target practice without IRA approval and will conclude that Wright's killing was another stage in the republican strategy of destabilising Northern Ireland.

Given the legitimate fears of the majority community that republicans are driving the peace process, and see it as a conveyor belt of concessions not as a genuine process of negotiation, the need for reassurance is pressing. Ms Mowlam should ensure that there is no further erosion of security. Republican demands for the removal of more troops from patrol and an end to surveillance should be treated as opportunist overreaching from a movement already hugged too often. If the Government is to maintain the faith of the majority, and the respect of all, then it must show now that it is serious about security.

ZAMBIAN FOLLIES

The persecution of Kaunda is unwise as well as unjust

Kenneth Kaunda's detention under Zambia's recently imposed emergency laws has about it a certain symmetry. The old man, who maintained a full state of emergency throughout his 27 disastrous years as Zambian President, consigned plenty of his political opponents to rot, without trial, in prison. But that does not make the action against him by his successor, President Frederick Chiluba, either just or wise.

Six years ago, the Movement for Multiparty Democracy (MMD) which Mr Chiluba heads swept Dr Kaunda from the presidency because Zambia's voters, finally and reluctantly given a choice in such matters, decisively rejected such abuses of state power. It is as wrong today for the Government to imprison citizens without charge or trial as it was then; and Dr Kaunda is one of 90 arrested since the current state of emergency was declared last October.

The justification then given for suspending due process was one of Africa's more farcical and short-lived putsches, by a bunch of junior officers who rapidly became drunk in charge of a coup. As soon as it became clear, as it did within days, that this pantomime presented no serious risk to the State, the emergency should have been declared over. Since the Government said at the time that it did not suspect the political opposition of complicity, it should not be using these laws to arrest opposition leaders.

If justice is ill-served by these arrests, so too are the calculations of realpolitik. Dr Kaunda dreams, unwisely, of a political comeback, but both he and his peculiar creed of Marxist "humanism" are deservedly discredited. Zambians remember all too well the shambles to which he reduced his country; they are still living with the consequences. Only as a martyr to injustice can he hope to be taken seriously again.

That is just what he could become, thanks to President Chiluba's ill-judged vendetta against him. It was folly to change the Constitution last year in order to disqualify Dr Kaunda from standing in elections which he stood to lose. The result was an opposition boycott; because it was perceived as a step back to a one-party state, the MMD landslide weakened the mandate that Mr Chiluba was so over-anxious to strengthen. It was further folly then to try to quash dissent in the press, civic organisations and political parties. It is folly compounded to hound Dr Kaunda over a coup in which no one seriously believes him to have been involved. Straw men are better ignored than put to the torch.

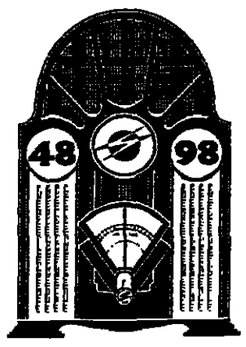
Mr Chiluba is an able President — certainly far more able than his predecessor — and he has taken courageous economic decisions that are at last unlocking Zambia's considerable wealth. But on the political front, he is squandering support at home and alienating foreign donors by this return to Dr Kaunda's own authoritarian methods. The democratic promise of 1991 must be redeemed. Dr Kaunda appears in court today. He should be charged or set free.

THE CELEBRITY ALBATROSS

Early fame can become an enemy of promise for the writer

A writer bursts into the public consciousness in his mid-twenties. His work captures the experience of a generation and is forged in the crucible of war. In the years that follow his reputation grows, but that reputation is not always literary: he becomes famous for his brawling, for his many wives, for the character he creates that is himself. He becomes entangled with the mantle of "great writer" that is cast about his shoulders and, despite the success he will have in later life, its weight begins to drag him down.

Norman Mailer's great novel — his first — of the Second World War, *The Naked and the Dead*, was published 50 years ago when Mailer was 26. The above paragraph could well have been written about him; equally it could have been written about his predecessor in American letters, Ernest Hemingway: that this is so illustrates not merely a correspondence between the two men's work, but also the difficulty of sustaining and building upon that most fragile of constructions, a literary reputation. The journey from *enfant terrible* to grand old man is a life's passage. Norman Mailer has travelled from early celebrity through wasted promise to a point where he refuses ever to surrender the struggle, the American odyssey captured in one man's journey.



The Naked and the Dead follows a platoon of American soldiers as they attempt the invasion of a Japanese-held Pacific island. The writing is both brutal and polished, honed by Mailer's own experience in the Pacific and the skills of observation and expression that would serve him so well in later works of non-fiction, *The Armies of the Night* and *The Executioner's Song*. It was this raw, early power that would lead Sinclair Lewis to hail him as "merely the greatest writer of this generation".

Such praise can be a burden, particularly to a writer who earns his living by his pen. The pressure to produce can be oppressive: as early as his second novel, *Barbary Shore*, Mailer was perceived as not living up to his early promise. The solitary pursuit of writing has a way of destroying solitude: others besides Hemingway and Mailer have been nearly devoured by their public alter egos. Mark Twain was haunted by the spirit of Tom Sawyer long after his work had begun to be marked by the difficult pessimism of his later years; Dickens's energetic embrace of his fame may have hastened his death.

As Mailer has continued to write for the past 50 years, much of his work has caused critics to question Sinclair Lewis's judgment. There is no doubting his ambition: his books have taken on Marilyn Monroe, Picasso, the CIA and, most recently, Jesus Christ. This last work, *The Gospel According to the Son*, a novel narrated by Jesus after His death, was taken by some as proof that Mailer's ego had finally got the better of him.

Mailer once wrote that "literary form in general is the record of war . . . whatever is alive, or intent, or obsessed, must wage an actual war . . . ". *The Naked and the Dead* turned the record of war into literary form; his work since, successful or not, has confronted the world with a warrior's bravery, and he has not yet given up the fight.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Minister's son on cannabis charge

From the Principal Officer of Nacro

Sir, It is absurd to suggest that the Cabinet minister whose son has been charged with supplying cannabis should resign or be moved to another post, or that this incident somehow undermines the Government's efforts to tackle juvenile crime (reports, December 26 and 27).

Many parents who have done their best to bring up their children as responsible and law-abiding young people are nevertheless distressed to find that they become involved with drugs or delinquency in adolescence. It would be surprising if Cabinet ministers' children were miraculously exempt from these problems.

As a member of the Home Secretary's advisory task force on youth justice, I would personally feel uneasy if our advice were considered by a Cabinet whose children were invariably paragons of virtue. This would suggest that they had no realistic understanding of the difficulties which many decent parents face in steering their children through the temptations and pressures of modern life.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL CAVADINO,
Principal Officer,
National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders
169 Clapham Road, SW9 0PU.
December 27.

From Mr Roger Everest

Sir, If the Prime Minister, or even the media, contemplate moving the father of the accused boy from one Cabinet post to another, it would give those who disagree with the Government's uncompromising policy against prohibited drugs — including, no doubt, the boy's friends who allegedly persuaded him to supply a journalist with drugs in a public place — a success they do not deserve.

Instead, the minister should remain in place, with the support of every law-abiding adult.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER EVEREST,
Twinfirs,
Talygarn, Pontyclun CF72 9BY.
December 28.

From Mr C. A. Palmer

Sir, Why, in a case as serious as peddling drugs to strangers, should a 17-year-old not be identified "for legal reasons"?

As Ann Widdecombe so rightly says (report, December 27): "A 17-year-old is old enough to smoke; he can drive a lethal ton of metal and he can go to war for his country."

What, then, are the "legal reasons" for withholding his identity?

Yours faithfully,
C. A. PALMER,
Tudor House, 3 Belle Vue Walk,
West Parley, Ferndown BH22 8QB.
December 28.

Tax and benefits

From Mr Ron Footer

Sir, If all benefits were taxed, it would go part of the way to solving the problem of benefits being paid to those who do not need them (letter, December 17). Then, at least, those on high incomes would have their allowances reduced by the appropriate tax. This tax, in its turn, would then be available to enhance the benefits.

There is, also, the general point of whether it is right that someone on exactly the same income as another should pay less tax because the income includes benefits.

Yours sincerely,
RON FOOTER,
15 East Woodside, Bexley DA5 3PG.
ron.footer@btinternet.com

From Mr M. F. Bentley

Sir, I note from my PAYE coding notice that income tax is already deducted from my state pension (letters, December 11).

I am not an expert in these matters, but is not the imposition of income tax a form of "means testing"?

The rich lose 40 per cent of the pension, the poor lose nothing.

Yours truly,
M. F. BENTLEY,
623 Merley Gardens,
Wimborne BH21 1TB.

Beef on the bone

From Mr David Dixon

Sir, Sergeant Bilko shouting "Don't panic!" (Nigella Lawson, "Bone of contention", December 17)? Surely there must be some confusion here, though I suppose it is just possible the motor-pool privateer came across Corporal Jones during GI service in the vicinity of Warmington-on-Sea.

Dare I suggest that a more likely reaction to the beef crisis from the Fort Baxter entrepreneur would be to buy all the boned steaks in the kitchen from Ritzik at a knockdown price and open a book on the likely future prospects of Jack Cunningham.

Yours faithfully,
DAVE DIXON,
5 Gilpin Avenue, SW14 8QX.

Sport letters, page 32

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Tax increases and the Tory 'big lie'

From Lord Monkswell

Sir, Before the 1979 election the Tories said they would *not* double VAT. After that election VAT went from 8 per cent to 15 per cent. They also cut the revenue support for local councils and capital allowances for council housebuilding, so rates and rents went up. Excise duties for beer and tobacco went up; so did car tax and fuel taxes.

The Tories also cut income tax. So people with high incomes had an overall tax reduction while everybody else paid more. In fact, in almost every year of the last 18 that the Tories were in power the average British citizen paid more tax than they did during the 1970s. While the top rate for rich people fell from 95 per cent to 40 per cent, the marginal rate of tax for some of those in the poverty trap rose to over 100 per cent.

Nevertheless, the Tories got away with the big lie — that they cut taxes, that they were the party of low taxation. They got away with it because the chattering classes, the opinion formers, the captains of industry, even our senior politicians were all in the income bracket that benefited from this shift in the burden of tax from rich to poor.

We had and still have high taxes, and the money has been given to fund mass unemployment and social fragmentation. The sensible solution has got to be full employment and social integration. Cries now for "increased taxes" merely support the Tories' big lie.

Yours etc,
MONKSWELL,
House of Lords.
December 27.

Call for facts on lone parent needs

From Mr Patrick Carroll

Sir, The heated debate in recent weeks on whether the benefit system should be restructured, so that more single parents are encouraged or constrained financially to go out to work, has not yet been resolved.

The Secretary of State, Harriet Harman, seems to rely on research findings to show that single parents want to work. Tony Blair, in response to the resignation of one of his ministers, Malcolm Chisholm, says: "the best way to tackle poverty among lone parents is to help them back into work" (report, December 11).

The institutions that fund research, the researchers who write the questionnaires, and those posing the questions and setting the tone of the interviews have a pro-work ethic, so that the research tends to produce misleading findings.

There is in the British culture a pro-work ethic still. It is not quite respectable to say: "I would prefer to avoid going to work if I can." No wonder struggling single parents agree when questioned that they would like to work again at a job with which they are familiar.

The reality may be different. Employers would prefer not to employ women with a serious domestic commitment. Paid employment may be becoming more scarce for all and there may be no jobs suitable for single parents.

Perhaps the most ominous implication — not within the scope of research already done on single parents — is that the children suffer neglect and society will have aggravated problems of delinquent young people.

There are already second-generation single parents. One could wish for research on that group. It would be interesting to discover how the characteristics of single parents are transmitted from one generation to the next.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK CARROLL
(Director of Research),
Pensions and Population Research Institute,
35 Canonbury Road, N1 2DG.
December 27.

Faked photographs

From Mr Freddy Kosten

Sir, Your report, "Press code will protect public from intrusion" (December 19), notes that the code was "influenced by the circumstances surrounding the death of Diana, Princess of Wales".

The code stresses, in its very first paragraph that "inaccurate, misleading or distorted . . . pictures" must not be published. In fact legal sanctions, via the Data Protection Act, can already be brought to bear on what is now the commonest method of such "distortion" — the digital manipulation of photographs.

You actually headlined this situation "Changing photographs is child's play" in relation to photographs of Princess Diana and Dodi Fayed (report, August 12). Such "changes" involve not only processing that deliberately produces inaccurate personal data (a breach of the fifth data protection principle) but also, as a consequence, processing that is unfair to the individuals identified (a breach of the first principle). Moreover, compensation can be awarded, under the Act, if such inaccuracy causes damage and associated distress.

Even if a faked photograph does not trigger a complaint from the person(s) concerned, the Data Protection Registrar is free to intervene if she considers it a matter of public policy to enforce any of the eight principles on which the Act is founded. She emphasised this point, in the context of journalism, in her 1996 annual report, adding that she "does indeed pursue matters of general significance that come to her notice".

Yours etc,
FREDDY KOSTEN
(Co-Editor), *Data Protection News*,
Cap Gemini UK Ltd,
95 Wandsworth Road, SW8 2HG.
dp.news@capgemini.co.uk
December 19.

BSE inquiry

From Dr G. F. Wood

Sir, Once again a judge has been appointed to chair an investigation into a scientific/technical matter — BSE (reports, December 23). Lawyers are quite unqualified to judge the issues in science and technology. The best they can do is report the opinions of the scientists whose advice they will seek.

The idea (carefully nurtured by lawyers) that experienced lawyers can form a proper judgment on any subject under the sun is simply not true. Given the nature of the training of scientists and lawyers, it is much more likely that a scientist will form a correct opinion on legal matters than vice versa.

An inquiry of this sort should surely include a majority of experts in the appropriate scientific fields, with a legal expert to advise on legal matters if required. The final report of such a panel would be a first-hand rather than a second-hand account of the subject.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE WOOD,
14 Whitecroft,
Nailsworth, Stroud GL6 0NS.
georgewood1@compuserve.com
December 23.

Papal U-turn

From Mr Richard Camber

Sir, Adam Cohen's letter (December 22) on the recent decision of the Vatican to construct a new observatory contains an implication of papal obscurantism: this is far from the case.

The first Vatican Observatory was actually built at the time of Pope Gregory XIII (1572-85), some half-a-century before the condemnation of Galileo by his longtime supporter, Pope Urban VIII. Since the signing of the Lateran Treaty by Pius XI (1922-39), its successor has been located at the papal summer residence of Castel Gandolfo.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD CAMBER,
28 Heath Drive,
Hampstead, NW3 7SB.
December 22.

Hidden pockets

From Sir George Engle, QC

Sir, In Marcel Pagnol's film *Marius*, when the wealthy, middle-aged Panisse asks the mother of the 18-year-old Fanny for her daughter's hand in marriage, offering a dowry of 100,000 francs, the mother replies:

"Ah! my poor Panisse, nighties have no pockets."

It is to be hoped that knickers with pockets (report and photograph, December 11; letter, December 18) are not designed for the mercenary.

Yours sincerely,
GEORGE ENGLE,
32 Wood Lane, Highgate, N6 5UB.

Legislation for life

From Mr Tom Sampson

Sir, Legislation to ban human reproduction (letter, December 18) is further supported by the biologists' view that life is a sexually transmitted terminal disease.

Yours faithfully,
TOM SAMPSON,
Puddlecroft,
Lucton, Herefordshire HR6 9PH.
aldsampson@aol.com

Saints and martyrs

From Mr Steven Carr

Sir, Surely *The Martyrdom of Polycarp* is not "documentary evidence" of Polycarp being burnt at the stake ("When saints come marching in", Weekend, December 20), as it states quite clearly that the flames refused to touch him. It gives a graphic description of his blood dousing the flames after he was stabbed.

It is surprising that there were any martyrs, as the early Christians were so hard to kill. Tertullian records that John the Evangelist was quite unharmed even after being plunged alive into boiling oil.

Yours sincerely,
STEVEN CARR,
Flat C, 28 Keighley Road,
Bradford, West Yorkshire BD8 7AT.
steven@bowness.demon.co.uk
December 20.

Film categories: let the board decide

From Mr Haydon Luke

Sir, You recently reported (December 19) that the newly appointed president of the British Board of Film Classification, the former Editor of *The Independent*, has "committed himself to a reform of the system, which has been criticised for its decisions on violent films, sex scenes and secrecy over rulings". I question the need for such reform.

For the past 17 years I have been a secondary head teacher, serving for much of that period on a BBFC consultative committee and thus observing the board's work at first hand. During that time I have been impressed both by its principled and rational stance on classification issues and by its valiant efforts to map a secure path through fairly murky territory.

I can vouch for the fact that the board consults widely with film producers, exhibitors and audiences. It commissions research, promotes conferences and seminars and offers briefings to MPs. And in order to establish what the public is, in general and on balance, happy to see on its cinema and video screens, it sounds out the opinions of childcare experts, psychologists, criminologists, writers, bishops, educators, local government, agony aunts and countless others, including the Home Office.

Of course the board's decisions will not please all of the people all of the time. But, in the end, is it not better to have decisions arrived at by informed and enlightened pragmatists, who know the territory thoroughly and continue to learn about it, than by the press or politicians, whose interests tend to be short-term and who may be working to populist criteria?

I suspect that the greater good of society is more likely to be served by the former group. The BBFC as presently set up may not be perfect; but it has the great merit of not being an arm of government, the industry or the press.

Independent? It has been. Will he be?

Yours faithfully,
HAYDON LUKE,
2 Brackendale Grove,
Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 3EJ.
December 26.

Shopper's wail

From Mr Michael Bond

Sir, Your City Editor asks (Commentary, Business, December 18) what is the best weather for shopping? The answer of course is freakish, as anyone who has tried to buy summerwear in summer and a winter coat in February can testify.

While the major shops insist on stocking clothes for the next season rather than the one which is upon us they are never going to thrive. They could also start stocking women's clothes in sizes other than 10 and 12 and women's shoes in more than one colour. We can't buy what they won't sell.

From a regularly frustrated shopping assistant.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL R. BOND,
119 High Street,
Chesterton, Cambridge CB4 1NL.
mbond@compuserve.com
December 18.

Waiting to happen

From Dr Mark Bourne

Sir, I have just read in Interface that Manchester ambulance service is installing some new software. The system apparently predicts with 80 per cent accuracy where and when accidents are likely to happen. Ambulances are then dispatched to loiter in anticipation.

Wouldn't it be better to use the information to trace and phone people up before they become victims?

As an alternative, the ambulances could tour the predicted area delivering warnings from loudspeakers.

Yours faithfully,
MARK BOURNE
(Staff doctor),
A&E Department,
Stafford District General Hospital,
Weston Road, Stafford ST16 3SA.
m_bourne@compuserve.com
December 17.

Brief encounters

From Mr Timothy West

Sir, In a feeble attempt to encourage a clearer and more economical public use of English, I wrote to the customer relations manager of one of our mainline railway companies, suggesting that their announcement "The buffet will be found located towards the front of the first-class ticket holders' accommodation and towards the rear of the standard-class ticket holders' accommodation" (27 words), apart from making spatial nonsense, could usefully be abbreviated to "The buffet is between the first and standard class coaches" (ten words).

I had a reply, which began "I am pleased to write to acknowledge that your recent correspondence sent to this office has arrived safely" (18 words). "Thank you for your letter" has five.

Yours etc,
TIMOTHY WEST,
c/o James Sharkey Associates,
21 Golden Square, W1.
December 27.

هكذا من الإعلان

هكذا من الأصل

COURT CIRCULAR

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
December 27: Princess Alexandra, Patron, this morning visited the Main Shelter of Crisis Open Christmas at Bermondsey Street, London SE1.

SANDRINGHAM
NORFOLK
December 28: Divine Service was held in Sandringham Parish Church this morning. The Bishop of Norwich preached the Sermon.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Charles Macintosh, pioneer of waterproofing, Glasgow, 1766; William Ewart Gladstone, Prime Minister 1868-74, 1880-85, 1886 and 1892-94, Liverpool, 1809; Pablo Casals, cellist, Vendrelli, Spain, 1876.
DEATHS: Thomas à Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury 1162-70, murdered in Canterbury Cathedral, 1170; Thomas Sydenham, physician, London, 1689; Brook Taylor, mathematician, London, 1731; Jacques-Louis David, painter, Brussels, 1825; Charles Lamb, essayist, Edmonton, Middlesex, 1834; Christina Rossetti, poet, London, 1894; Sir William Osler, physician, Oxford, 1919; Rainer Maria Rilke, poet, Valmont, Switzerland, 1926; Eden Phillpotts, novelist, Broad Clyst, near Exeter, 1960; Paul Whiteman, bandleader, Doylestown, Pennsylvania, 1967; Maurice Harold Macmillan, 1st Earl of Stockton, Prime Minister 1957-63, Sussex, 1986.
Radio Luxembourg began broadcasting, 1930.
The Irish Free State changed its name to Eire when the new Constitution was implemented, 1937.
German planes dropped 10,000 bombs on London, 1940.
The first transistor hearing aid went on sale in America, 1951.
A coelacanth, a primitive fish thought extinct, was caught off the South African coast, 1952.

Nature notes

MANY glaucous gulls were seen along British coasts last week. They are very white gulls, and as large and fierce as a great black-backed gull: they come down from Iceland and the Arctic Circle.

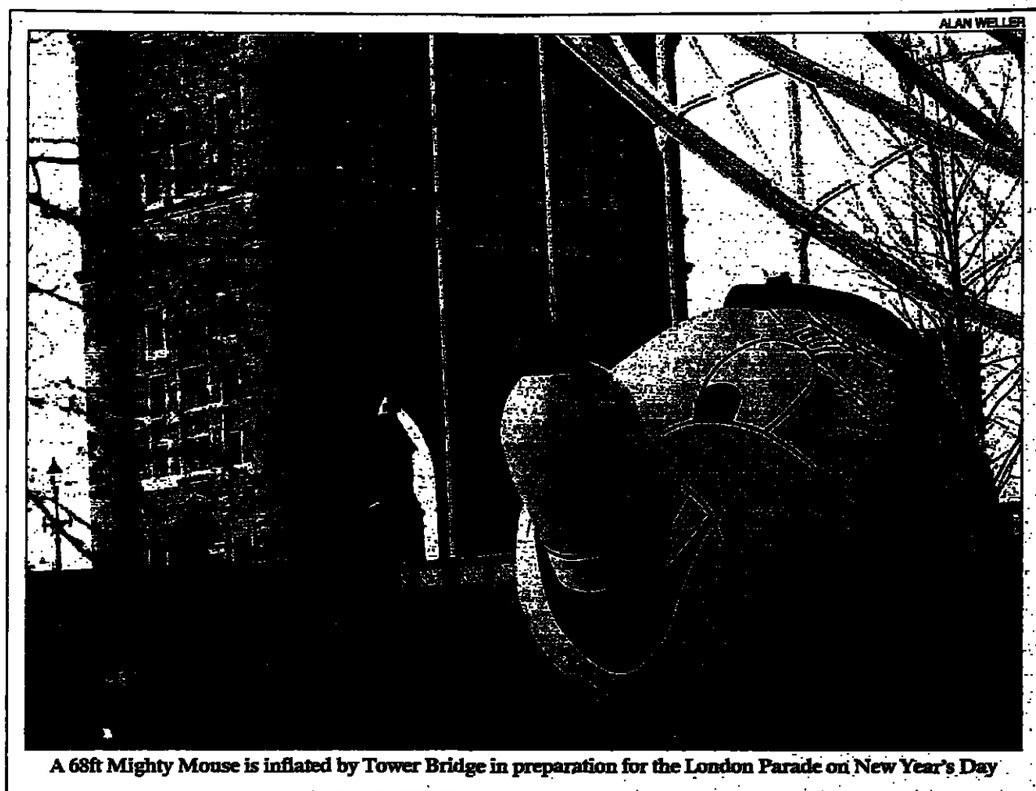
Great northern divers have come in from the rough seas to reservoirs and large lakes: they move swiftly under water when fishing, and can stay down for as long as a minute. Female and juvenile smew have also arrived on inland waters: they are small ducks with a grey body, a white throat and a red cap. The drakes, which are pure white with fine black pencil-markings, are much rarer in Britain. A hoopoe has been feeding on rough ground behind a supermarket in the centre of Barnstaple, Devon, over Christmas.

In the woods, young brambles are coming up and sprawling over the dead leaves. Under beech trees, fungi are still flourishing: they include the magpie ink-cap, which is black with lines of white spots, and the flat-capped, yellowish-brown penny top. Hedges are smothered by the feathery grey seeds of old man's beard, while hart's-tongue fern thrives on wet walls, with ripe spores lining the undersides of its long, strap-shaped leaves. DJM



The glaucous gull

ALAN WELLER



A 68ft Mighty Mouse is inflated by Tower Bridge in preparation for the London Parade on New Year's Day

Heroes of Greek myth 'were masters of germ warfare'

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

ACCOUNTS of biological warfare in classical myths are so common and consistent that they clearly reflect ancient realities, an American scholar has claimed. The legend of Heracles shows a warrior rather different from the Disneyfied cartoon character, using weapons horrible even by modern standards of battlefield dirty tricks.

Having slain the monstrous Hydra, Heracles dipped his arrows in its venom, creating "the earliest biological weapon described in Western literature", says Adrienne Mayor. "The legends of Heracles's Hydra-venom arrows express the complex moral issues that surrounded real biological warfare in the ancient world, setting in motion controversies that continue to this day."

Heracles's weapons feature in stories of the Trojan War. The bow and arrows passed into the hands of Philoctetes, who injured his foot on a poisoned point, and according to Sophocles was abandoned by his comrades, unable to bear the stench of his wound and his cries.

In the same war, the god Apollo used poisoned arrows on the Trojan side: the Greek word for poison, *toxikon*, comes from *toxon*, "arrow", linking the concepts for millennia past. Dr Mayor notes in the *Quarterly Journal of Military History*. She adds: "Numerous ancient historians provide strong evidence that biological weapons were not only contemplated, but actually used."

The concept applied to the covert use of organic poisons or natural agents to destroy the enemy while avoiding direct contact. Insidious projectiles were more feared than hand-to-hand combat, and Sophocles's dialogue shows that the ambiguous morality of such methods was recognised and discussed.

The venom used by Heracles and others may have been similar to the *skythikon pharmakon* used by the Scythians north of the Black Sea, who according to Herodotus claimed inheritance of Heracles's bow and arrows.

The recipe for this toxin can be reconstructed from Aristotle and the 3rd-century BC naturalist Aelian, Dr Mayor says. Vipers were killed in a certain season and set aside to rot. Meanwhile, human blood was mixed with dung and buried in sealed vessels until the mixture putrefied; it was then blended with the venom from the decomposed vipers to produce a poison that included bacteria causing tetanus and gangrene, and which would have its initial effect within an hour.

If the victim survived shock and respiratory paralysis, "gangrene would set in after about a day", according to Steffen Berg, followed by tetanus a few days later. Any survivor would suffer a festering wound, like that which crippled Philoctetes for many years.

Alexander the Great encountered a similar toxin in 326BC when he invaded northern India: Diodorus Siculus describes the Harmatelians' "drug of mortal effect" as inflicting immediate numbness, followed by pain and convulsions, gangrene and death.
Source: *MHQ: The Quarterly Journal of Military History*, autumn 1997:32-37

Woad makes hi-tech return to East Anglia

BY JOHN SHAW

WOAD, used by Queen Boadicea's warriors as war paint, is making a comeback on the Fens of East Anglia.

A test crop has been planted by a seed firm at Stow Bridge near Downham Market, Norfolk, which may lead to the plant becoming an eco-friendly product for the computer industry.

Gorham and Bateson (Agriculture) is taking part in a £700,000 three-year research project to revive the growing of woad and develop mechanised harvesting techniques and a rapid dye-extraction process. The hope is to produce a source of indigo ink for bubble-jet printers to be sold around the world. The project reflects a growing demand for renewable sources of materials and the increasing popularity of natural dyes in the fashion and textile industries.

Also involved are Willet International, makers of printing systems in Corby, and Bristol University. The Ministry of Agriculture has given a grant of almost £300,000. Experimental plants have been grown at the Institute of Arable Crop Research near Bristol to find the best strain.

Dr Kerry Stoker, a member of the team, said: "People are very interested in finding alternatives to products made with by-products of the oil industry. The aim is to try to find natural products which cannot necessarily entirely replace these things but can start to work alongside their synthetic counterparts."

The plant has a long-running tradition in the Fens. It thrived for centuries before modern discoveries and equipment made it redundant. The last woad factory in the region was at Parson Drove near Wisbech which was demolished 80 years ago. If the new crop proves commercially viable about 40 farms in Norfolk and Suffolk will begin planting.

Birthdays today

June Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair, 84; Sir Richard Beaumont, diplomat, 85; Lord Beaverbrook, 46; Sir Samuel Brittan, journalist, 64; Mr John Connell, former chairman, Distillers Company, 73; Mr Bernard Cribbins, actor, 69; Mr Ted Danson, actor, 50; Baroness Denton of Wakefield, 62; General Sir Robert Ford, 74; Mr Andrew Foster, controller, Audit Commission for Local Authorities and the NHS in England and Wales, 53; Professor L.C.B. Gower, FBA, former Vice-Chancellor, Southampton University, 84; Mr David Hall, former Chief Constable, Humberside, 67; Sir Simon Hornby, president, Royal Horticultural Society, 63; Mr Martin Offiah, rugby league player, 31; Mrs Rosalind Preston, former president, National Council of Women of Great Britain, 62; the Right Rev Mark Santer, Bishop of Birmingham, 61; Sir Kenneth Sharp, accountant, 71; Mr Harvey Smith, showjumper, 59; Mr Jon Voight, actor, 59; Sir Edward Williams, former commissioner-general, Expo 88, Brisbane, 76.

Latest wills

Arnold Hastings Laver, company director, of Baildon, Yorkshire, left estate valued at £7,625,670 net.
John Arthur Bernard Keeling, of Sedlescombe, East Sussex, left estate valued at £5,466,503 net. He left £10,000 to St Michael's Hospice Development Trust of St Leonards-on-Sea; £5,000 to the Roman Catholic Church at Battle.
Lady Figgess, of Middleton Stoney, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £1,674,299 net.
Lella, Viscountess Hampden, of Alton, Hampshire, left estate valued at £87,364 net.
Lady Maitland Makgill Crichton, of London SW1, left estate valued at £1,338,699 net.
John Kidd Magee, of Rothley, Leicestershire, left estate valued at £1,203,786 net.
Lady Price-Thomas, of North Walsham, Norfolk, left estate valued at £136,146 net.
Sir Lindsay Roberts Ring, chairman Ring and Brymer Birchs, of Chislehurst, Kent, left estate valued at £581,275 net.
Lady Russell, of Isleworth, north-west London, left estate valued at £531,171 net.
June Joy De Power, of London W1, left estate valued at £4,205,817 net.
Peter John Alexander, of Lexden, Colchester, left estate valued at £3,290,066 net.
Neil Munro Roger, of London W14, left estate valued at £2,247,529 net.

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Turn from the wayward passions of youth and pursue justice, integrity, love and peace together with all who worship the Lord in singleness of mind. 2 Timothy 2 : 22

BIRTHS

ANDREAE - On December 26th to Victoria (née Clive) and Giles, a son, (Finn Jesse John).

BEST - On December 24th at Pembury Hospital to Kate (née Nelson) and Tony, a daughter Iris Miranda Nelson, a sister for Nancy and Alice.

COULLIE - On 22nd December 1997, in Geneva, to Michael and Sibylle, a very special son, Matties Ian.

EVANS - On December 20th 1997 at Clinique de Montchoisi, Lausanne, Switzerland, to Rosaline (Lindy) (née Duns) and Martin, a daughter, Clara Louise Curtois.

JONES - On 24th December, to Helen (née Shelley) and Chris, a daughter Olivia Louise a sister for Robbie.

PYE - On Boxing Day December 26th at The Chelsea & Westminster to Louise (née Silver), and Jonathan a son Xavier James Alexander.

ROSSDALE - On December 26th to Sophie (née Hobhouse) and Peter, a daughter Olivia Rose, sister to Charlotte.

DEATHS

AINSWORTH - Winifred Rose on Tuesday 23rd December peacefully at Rustington Hall Nursing Home. All enquiries to F.A. Holland & Son, Terminus Road, Littlehampton, tel: (01903) 713939.

BOYD - Sheila Margaret (née MacLeod) aged 82 years died suddenly and peacefully on December 23rd. Beloved wife of the late Alan. Much loved mother of Alastair, Catriona, Colin and Diana, and dearly loved Grannie to Nicola, Robert, Andrew, Lucy, Alan, Charlotte, Claire, John and Christopher. Funeral service on Friday 2nd January at 1-30 pm at Christ Church, Great Ayton, North Yorkshire followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please, but donations, if desired, to NSPCC. Enquiries to E W Carter, Swainby (01642) 700206.

CLARK - Graham J.L. of Saltbouse, Norfolk on December 22nd. Much loved husband of Kathleen, loving Dad of Sam and Barnaby, elder son of Mr and Mrs L.M.D. Clark, brother of Richard and James. Funeral service at St. Faiths Crematorium, Norwich on Friday January 2nd at 1.00pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Cancer Research may be sent to Broadland Funeral Services, 102 Norwich Road, Wroxham, Norfolk.

DRINKWATER - Monica Hillary, OBE (née Bryant). Died peacefully in Cheltenham General Hospital on Tuesday 23rd December, aged 56 years. Darling wife and best friend of John, much loved stepmother of Barry and Susan, her husband Peter and her adored grandchildren, Tom and Will. Funeral Service and burial at St Peters Church, Leckhampton, Cheltenham at 2 pm on Friday 2nd January. Family flowers only, donations, if desired for Ovarian Cancer Research c/o W.S. Trenhaile Funeral Directors, 174 Bath Road, Cheltenham, GL53 7NE.

DEATHS

GOWER - Laurence Cecil Bartlett (Jnr). Aged 83 years, died peacefully on the morning of December 25th. Much loved by his wife and family. A memorial will be arranged and announced.

HOPKINSON - Anne. Peacefully at home on December 23rd wife of the late Brigadier Harry Hopkinson. Dearly loved mother and grandmother. Funeral Service at All Saints, Woolstone, on Tuesday December 30th at 12.00 noon. Donations if wished to All Saints Church Fund. Funeral Directors, Baker & Sons, Tel: 01367 240572.

JUNOR - Roderick Robin MacGregor Junor on December 24th peacefully at East Surrey Hospital. Dearly loved husband of Sexy Junor, father of Rod, and only son of the late Sir John Junor and Lady Pamela Junor.

KELLY - (née Dunleavie) Christina Margaret on 23rd December 1997 peacefully at Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge. Dearly beloved wife of Anthony and dearest mother of Marie-Clare, Paul, Andrew and Stephen. Grandmother of Charles, Rebecca and Olivia. Requiem Mass to be held at Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Hills Road, Cambridge at 12.15pm on Friday 2nd January 1998. Donations if desired to Save the Children Fund, c/o Cambridge Funeral Services, 617 Newmarket Road, Cambridge. CB5 8PA.

LAWSON - Richard C. on December 23rd peacefully at Parkside Hospital, Friday, aged 92 years. Husband of Peggy, father of Anne and Helen. Service at Aldershot Crematorium on Monday January 5th at 11 am. Family flowers only. Donations to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund c/o H.C. Patrick & Co., 86 East Street, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7TP.

LEE - 23rd December 1997 peacefully in hospital, after a long illness. Betty, beloved wife of Herbert (Ex Standard Chartered Bank) loving mother of Susan and son-in-law Ross, and granddaughters Clare and Naomi, and much missed by all her family and friends. Service at St Peter's Church, Formby on Friday 2nd January 1998 at 1.00 pm. Followed by cremation at Southport at 2.00 pm. Family flowers only, donations welcome and payable to "Alzheimer's Disease Society" c/o Dean Bros. Deans Court 76, Gores Lane, Formby L37 7DF Tel: 01704 872023.

LEE - 23rd December 1997 peacefully in hospital, after a long illness. Betty, beloved wife of Herbert (Ex Standard Chartered Bank) loving mother of Susan and son-in-law Ross, and granddaughters Clare and Naomi, and much missed by all her family and friends. Service at St Peter's Church, Formby on Friday 2nd January 1998 at 1.00 pm. Followed by cremation at Southport at 2.00 pm. Family flowers only, donations welcome and payable to "Alzheimer's Disease Society" c/o Dean Bros. Deans Court 76, Gores Lane, Formby L37 7DF Tel: 01704 872023.

McLEAN - Katey peacefully in her sleep at home in Tunbridge Wells on 22nd December 1997. Funeral Service at 11am on Tuesday 6th January 1998 at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium. All family and friends are invited to attend. By Katey's request ladies in bright dresses, gentlemen in bright ties. Reception to follow. Family flowers only, donations if desired to The Hospice in the Weald at Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

MICHEL - Barbara Blanche in Los Angeles on Christmas Day after a long illness. Her loving daughters Aster and Aida are at 1641 South Beverly Glen Boivd. LA CA90024.

MINNS - Francis Colvile, peacefully on Wednesday 24th December in Mill House Nursing Home, Horsford, Norfolk. Beloved husband of the late Mary Kate, father of Sophia, Maurice and Julian and grandfather of Gioia, James, Philip, Jonathon, Gregory and Nicholas. Funeral service will be held at Earlham Crematorium, Norwich on Friday January 2nd at 1.30pm. No flowers and donations to Whitbone Trust c/o British Orthopedic Association, Royal College of Surgeons 34/46 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PN. Enquiries to Gordon Rooney Funeral Directors, 122 Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.

NEWALL - William (HM Customs) suddenly on December 23rd. Beloved husband of Helen, father to Phillip and Rachel and step-father to Marie and Matthew. Funeral at Colchester crematorium on Friday January 2nd at 1.00pm.

PINKERTON - John Maurice McLean, MA, PhD, Cang, FIEE, FBCS, suddenly at home on 22nd December 1997 in his 79th year. Beloved by family and his many friends. Service at Christ Church, Esher on Monday 5th January 1998 at 11.30am. All welcome. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Trinity in Camberwell c/o James & Thomas Ltd 970, Mill Road, Cobham, Surrey KT11 3AL.

PROKOFIEFF - Emilie, wife of the late Serge Prokofieff, beloved sister of Marie, and Aunt of the Allan, Barlow and Countisbury families. Died peacefully and surrounded at Trinity Hospice on 24th December 1997.

SHIELDS - John Sinclair aged 94, died in his sleep at home on December 23rd. Formerly Headmaster at Wem, Basingstoke and Winchester. Donations to Relate. Inquiries and flowers to Peter Jackson Funeral Services, 01963 362570.

SHUTTLEWORTH - Derek. Passed away peacefully in hospital on 23rd December. Funeral Service at High Lever Church, on Tuesday 6th January at 12.45pm followed by cremation at Farndon Wood, Harlow. Derek requested no flowers, but donations appreciated to Maidenus Trust c/o Daniel Robinson & Sons Ltd, Wych Elm, Harlow, Tel: 01279 426990.

STONOR - Dorothy. Suddenly at home on 23rd December. Beloved mother of Michael, John and Christopher and grandmother. Funeral at St. Peter's Church, Woodmancote, near Henfield, West Sussex on Tuesday 6th January 1998 at 11.00am. No flowers please but donations in lieu to either Homeless in Sussex or Diocesan Family Social Work, Knowles-Tooth Centre. Details from Hannaigrams Funeral Directors, Montacute Road, Hove, East Sussex. 01273 778733.

SYMONDS - Ronald Chartres CB died December 21st. Beloved husband of Pamela (deceased), father of Andrew (deceased), David and Joanna, grandfather of Nicola, Caroline, Julian, Toby, Catherine, and Emma, great-grandfather of Cara, Callie and Thomas. Memorial Service at St. Mary's Church, Islington, on January 25th at 3.00pm. Ronald's daughter Joanna would be happy to hear from his friends on 0171-359-0702.

WILSON - Jean Duncan Cockburn (née Leishman) peacefully on 24th December at Wilton House, Shenley, Hertfordshire in her 90th year. Wife of the late Albert Wilson and mother of Ronald and Donald, loving grandmother and great-grandmother and a friend to many. Funeral service at Dunfermline crematorium on Wednesday 31st December at 11.30am to which all friends are cordially invited.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

FERGUSSON - Mary Isolen (Molly). A Service of Thanksgiving for her life will be held at St John's Episcopal Church, Princes Street, Edinburgh on 5th January 1998 at 1 pm. All friends and former colleagues are welcome.

BIRTHDAYS

IAN - This is Knighted calling - come in Ian - oh what a beautiful thought. Always remember you're only as old as you feel and I'm in whose 48! Happy Birthday young thing. All my love my darling - today and forever.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF THE APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER
Name of Company
Fenton-Wood Investments Limited
Number of Company 3411138
Former name of Company registered in last 12 months
Trading name of Company in last 12 months
Full name(s) of administrative receiver(s)
David John Blenkhorn
Peter Elsdon Pedmore
Address
Price Waterhouse
The Quay
90 Channel Way
Ocean Village
SOUTHAMPTON SO14 3QG
Date of Appointment
19 December 1997
Appointor
Lloyds Bank Plc
Nature and date of instrument conferring power to appoint
Debenture dated: 20 June 1989
Short description of assets of the company (if any) to which appointment does not apply
Legal mortgage: 25 April 1974
Legal Charge: 25 May 1977
Legal charge: 22 December 1977
D J Blenkhorn
Joint administrative receiver
DJB/DKW/FPS/SRR/K10118

APPLICATION FOR PROVISIONAL GRANT OF A NEW LICENCE
TO: THE CLERK TO THE LICENSING DIRECTORS FOR THE LICENSING DIVISION OF FOLKESTONE AND HYTHE
TO: THE OFFICER IN CHARGE, KENT CONSTABULARY POLICE STONE POLICE STATION.
TO: THE CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER FOR THE SHEPWAY DISTRICT COUNCIL.
TO: THE CLERK TO THE FOLKESTONE PARISH COUNCIL.
TO: THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER OF THE KENT FIRE BRIGADE FOLKESTONE FIRE STATION.
AND
TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.
WE, FREDERICK WILLIAM AUSTIN who has resided for the past six months at 31 Downs Lane, St Mary's Bay Dymchurch Kent and carried on the trade or calling of Licensed Caterer as Manager HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE that it is our intention to apply at the Licensing Sessions for the Licensing Division of Folkestone and Hythe in the Kent area to be held at FOLKESTONE MAGISTRATES COURT Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2EH on WEDNESDAY the 14th day of JANUARY 1998 at 10.00 am in the forenoon for the provisional grant to us of a Justices Licence for the sale by retail of any intoxicating liquor to be sold for consumption ON/OFF the premises situate at Dunstall Lake St Mary's Bay Dymchurch Kent and known by the sign of "Pension Hall", or which it is proposed to be known as "FREDERICK WILLIAM AUSTIN" as the holder of an existing Licence subject to Club conditions, which Licence I am exercising upon the grant of a Final Licence.
GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS THIS 22ND DAY OF DECEMBER 1997.
Burgoyne White Solicitors
9 Lincolns Inn Fields
London WC2A 3BP

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF THE APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER
Name of Company
Beechcroft Investments Limited
Number of Company 768212
Former name of Company registered in last 12 months
Trading name of Company in last 12 months
Full name(s) of administrative receiver(s)
David John Blenkhorn
Peter Elsdon Pedmore
Address
Price Waterhouse
The Quay
90 Channel Way
Ocean Village
SOUTHAMPTON SO14 3QG
Date of Appointment
19 December 1997
Appointor
Lloyds Bank Plc
Nature and date of instrument conferring power to appoint
Debenture dated: 20 June 1989
Short description of assets of the company (if any) to which appointment does not apply
Legal mortgage: 03 December 1973
Charted mortgage: 26 November 1997
Signed this 22 December 1997
D J Blenkhorn
Joint administrative receiver
DJB/DKW/FPS/SRR/K10119

ADDERLEY LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT, 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of Population & Applebys, 32 High Street, Manchester M2 1QD on THURSDAY 8th DAY OF JANUARY 1998 at 10.30 am, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2)(a) of the Act, Mr Peter Lomas of Population & Applebys, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED THIS 18th DAY OF DECEMBER 1997
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
G A REEDS, DIRECTOR

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver
SPM (GLOUCS) LIMITED
Registered Number 02693076
Trading name(s) of business
Name of dealership
Trade Classification 99
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s)
16 December 1997
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s)
National Westminster Bank Plc
Names of administrative receivers
Peter Norman Spratt
Anthony Victor Lomas
Office Holder No(s) 8826 & 7980
Address
Thomas Court
1 Thomas Street
Windsor
Berkshire
SL4 1HX
No 1 London Bridge
London
SE1 9GB

MBCD Limited (formerly Mitchell Brandtman Ltd)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of Ham Associates, Temple Chambers, Temple Avenue, London, EC4Y 0DT on 2 January 1998 at 2.00 pm for the purposes mentioned in Section 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2)(a) of the Act, Mr Peter Lomas of Population & Applebys, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED THIS 15th DAY OF DECEMBER 1997
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
G A REEDS, DIRECTOR

REEDS SCHOOL OF MOTORING (UK) LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT, 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Population & Applebys, 32 High Street, Manchester M2 1QD on THURSDAY 8th DAY OF JANUARY 1998 at 12.00 Noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2)(a) of the Act, Mr Peter Lomas of Population & Applebys, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED THIS 15th DAY OF DECEMBER 1997
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
MRS G A REEDS, DIRECTOR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COURT & SOCIAL
FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES AND MARRIAGES
Over the New Year period the following deadlines will apply:
Notices for:-
Tuesday December 30th, should be received by noon on Monday December 29th; Wednesday December 31st, by 5pm on Monday December 29th; Thursday and Friday January 1st and 2nd 1998 by 5pm on Tuesday December 30th 1997; and Saturday and Monday January 3rd and 5th by 2pm on Wednesday December 31st.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE TIMES
NEW YEAR PERIOD
Deadlines and Opening Times
Birth, Marriage & Death Notices
For notices to appear on Thursday January 1st and Friday January 2nd the deadline is Wednesday December 31st at 12.00 noon.
Thursday January 1st - Office Closed.
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OBITUARIES

BRIGADIER ANGUS IRWIN



Irwin in one of the deep-dug trenches which saved the lives of so many Black Watch men at the Hook, Korea, in 1952

Brigadier Angus Irwin, CBE, DSO, MC, former commander of 153 Highland Brigade, died on December 15 aged 80. He was born on April 17, 1917.

Angus Irwin won his DSO in 1952, at the Second Battle of the Hook — a key position in the United Nations' defence line during the Korean War. In the autumn of 1952 the Hook, a sinister horseshoe-shaped hill, was fought over by both sides with almost fanatical ferocity. It had first been captured by the US 7th Marines in a brave but costly attack, and then been lost and later recaptured by them. *Exhausted, and with their ranks* terribly thinned by their methods of attack, the US Marines were then replaced by the Black Watch. As this swaying and internecine battle developed, the Hook began to bulk in the combatants' minds much as Hill 60 had in the First World War, or (and especially to the Americans) Iwojima in the Second.

A company commander in the 1st Battalion the Black Watch, Irwin and his men had already held out against several days of heavy bombardment when, on the night of November 18, 1952, Chinese infantry swarmed up the slopes towards the Highlanders, overwhelming their forward patrols. By *that time many men in Irwin's* company already owed their lives to his tactical sense, determination and foresight.

When his unit had taken over the Hook from the US Marines a few days earlier, they found that the Americans had dug very few trenches and those they had dug were far too shallow to give their occupants any protection. The position was littered with torn sandbags and shreds of barbed wire, a nightmare for any defender.

Much though they admired the fighting qualities of the US Marines, Irwin and his fellow officers realised that the Americans' tactics — which were based exclusively on *the doctrine of the offensive* — were suicidal against the numerically superior, and equally determined, Chinese.

As soon as he had surveyed the position, Irwin immediately put his men to digging feverishly round the clock to repair its deficiencies. Although they cursed their company commander roundly for this sweated labour in the crumbling soil of the hillside the "Jocks" of 1st Black Watch were to acknowledge his wisdom once the enemy bombardment began. Unlike the US Marines, who had sustained heavy casualties from the Chinese bombardments to which they had been subjected, *not* one man of the Black Watch *lost his life to shellfire.*

And when the Chinese infantry attacked, Irwin was ready for them. While his own men were protected by their deep dugouts, he called for air bursts from the British artillery over the enemy, before launching a series of counter-attacks.

Hand-to-hand fighting raged all night: when magazines were emptied, rifle butts and even steel helmets were used as weapons to repulse the foe. All the while, Irwin directed the to-and-fro battle from his command post, which was itself at one time completely surrounded by Chinese troops. The citation for his award paid tribute not only to his efficiency and skill but to his personal courage which was, *it* said, "an inspiration to all who came into contact with him".

A fiery redhead known in his regiment as "Red Angus" (to distinguish him from a near-namesake called "Black Angus") he had won his MC in France 12 years before. While commanding a Bren-gun carrier platoon on the British retreat to the Channel in 1940, he had braved heavy enemy fire to recover the wounded from his unit at St Valéry.

But then had followed their capture by the Germans, a forced march under guard through the Low Countries and five years as a prisoner-of-war. An active member of *the escape committee*, Irwin spent much of the time perfecting his natural talent as a draughtsman by forging papers for those who made a break for it.

Angus Digby Hastings Irwin was the son of a naval commander who, on retiring, raised Aberdeen Angus cattle in Argentina. As a boy, however, he spent most of his time in Scotland — on his grandparents' large estate at Snaigow, Perthshire.

He went to Glenalmond school and thence to the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, where he was made a junior under-officer before being commissioned into the Black Watch in 1937 and being sent to *Palestine.*

After the war, he served as ADC to General Sir Neil Ritchie, General Officer Commanding Scotland, and as a staff captain in the North Highland District Headquarters. But this was the only real staff job he ever held. A natural leader in the field, he was to spend the bulk of his career in command appointments, a number of them in action overseas. Berlin was followed by Korea, then Kenya for anti-Mau Mau operations and a brief respite in Britain to march in the 1953 Coronation procession.

He took command of the 1st Battalion in 1959 and led the regiment in Cyprus, towards the *end of the Eoka terrorist campaign.* Promoted brigadier in 1965, he commanded 153 Highland Brigade before leaving for his final assignment — in charge of the British joint services training team in Ghana, shortly after the overthrow of Kwame Nkrumah. He retired in 1968.

Back in Scotland, he ran a small business for a while and became involved in voluntary work, mainly for the church and the Conservative Party. In 1974 he was elected to the new Tayside Regional Council and served on it for four years, chairing the fire and police committees.

Irwin was well-liked within the Army and without. A vigorous *Highland dancer on wild mess* nights in his young days (he once flung a visiting American through a window), he was essentially unpretentious, with a temper which cooled as quickly as it rose, to be replaced by a twinkle in his eye. His interests included watercolour painting and horology.

He married his wife Elizabeth, whose father was chairman of the Distillers Company, in 1946. A wartime Wren, she was introduced to him through her father's friend (and Irwin's superior) General Ritchie.

He is survived by her and by a son and a daughter.

MASARU IBUKA

Masaru Ibuka, co-founder of the Sony Corporation of Japan, died in Tokyo on December 19 aged 89. He was born on April 11, 1908.

THE engineer who took transistor technology from America to Japan, Masaru Ibuka then returned to flood the West with the cheap and reliable radios which became the style icon of the 1950s. In 1952 Ibuka visited the US, looking for technology for developing magnetic tape recorders, the main product of the company he had founded with Akio Morita, that was later to become Sony.

He was intrigued by a device for amplifying electrical signals called the transistor, being marketed by Western Electric. It was tiny, very simple and consumed very little power, making it ideal for battery-powered portable devices; it was also very unreliable and delicate.

In the US, the only interest in the transistor seemed to be for military use and for hearing aids. Ibuka and Morita invested $25,000 in the rights to make them in Japan.

Ibuka and a team of engineers refined the production of the transistor and launched their first radio in 1955, under the Sony brand. But the big breakthrough was the world's first pocket-size radio in 1957, even though it needed large pockets — Sony salesmen were issued with new shirts with extra-large pockets sewn on the front into which demonstration units could be slipped.

The radios in their plastic casings were attacked as cheap and shoddy, but the appeal of an affordable and portable way of receiving music was irresistible to a youth which was beginning to declare its independence. As a result the Japanese consumer electronics industry swept to worldwide domination.

Masaru Ibuka was born in western Japan of a family claiming Samurai origins. He was an enthusiastic radio ham from an early age, and studied electrical engineering at the Waseda University, graduating in 1933.

During the Second World War Ibuka worked in a military research group developing heat-seeking technology; there he met an Imperial Navy officer called Akio Morita. In 1946, Ibuka and Morita set up a company called Tokyo Telecommunications Engineering Corporation in the bombed-out shell of a department store.

After some false starts with a rice cooker (it either produced a soggy mess or burnt flakes) and a scheme for transforming bomb-flattened areas of Tokyo into golf courses, the company had a modest success with a line of tape recorders and shortwave radios.

At this point, the partners felt the need for a snappier company name. The Latin word for sound, son, was the starting point. Keen to exploit the craze for American slang, they wanted to call themselves the Sonny Boys, but Sonny sounds like a Japanese word for loser. It was Morita's idea to drop an N and become Sony, a word easily pronounced throughout the world but with no meaning and therefore no copyright problems. Under Ibuka's technical leadership, Sony introduced the first transistor television set in 1959 and the first solid-state videotape recorder in 1961.

The product that propelled Sony to household name status was the Trinitron colour TV, developed by a team of engineers personally led by Ibuka and launched in 1967. A brilliant design in which the three electronic beams needed for colour were fired through one gun and then focused through one lens, it also succeeded in circumventing crucial patents held by American firms. It was a worldwide success.

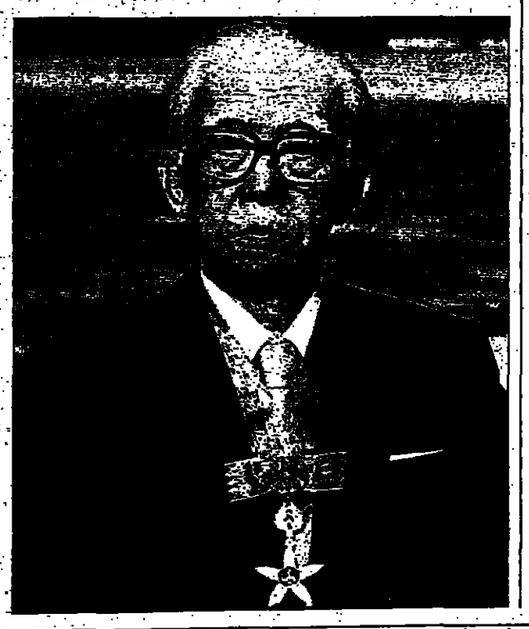
Sony also expanded rapidly in another area where Ibuka had developed early expertise, in video recording and camera technology. Although Sony's technically superior Betamax home video recording system lost out to Matsushita's VHS system, Sony became the dominant supplier in the professional video and broadcasting industry.

Under Ibuka and Morita, Sony was one of the major influences in transforming Japan's industry from suppliers of cheap and reliable derivatives of Western products to suppliers of truly innovative consumer products with their own distinctive style. In the case of Sony, this is typified best by the Walkman, a portable cassette player that allowed people for the first time to take their own choice of music with them wherever they went. Ibuka was involved with the project from its inception.

In 1971 Ibuka became chairman of Sony Corporation. He effectively retired in 1976, becoming honorary chairman. In 1994 he was, as is customary with Japanese companies, awarded the title of Founder and Chief Adviser.

Although he worked most of his waking hours for all of his long career, Ibuka found time to become involved in education for infants, and set up the Sony Fund for Education to promote science in schools. In 1978 he was awarded the Order of the Sacred Treasure, First Class, and in 1989 was designated a Person of Cultural Merits by the Ministry of Education. In 1992 the Emperor made him a member of the Order of Culture.

He leaves a son and two daughters.



GIORGIO STREHLER

Giorgio Strehler, Italian theatre director, died at his home in Lugano, Switzerland, on Christmas Day aged 76. He was born near Trieste on August 14, 1921.

BRITAIN, alas, saw very little of the work of Giorgio Strehler. There was a sight of his genius when La Scala in 1975 brought Verdi's *Simon Boccanegra* to Covent Garden in one of his most famous opera productions. But the many plans to lure Strehler, or one of his productions, to the National Theatre never materialised.

In Europe it was a different matter. There, the name of Giorgio Strehler was spoken in the accents of reverence generally reserved for the likes of Peter Brook or Peter Stein. He was one of the kings of Milan where, in 1947, he founded the Piccolo Teatro with his colleague from student days, Paolo Grassi. For a number of years from 1983 he was director of the Théâtre de l'Europe in Paris. During the 1970s he directed a number of operas at La Scala, usually with Claudio Abbado conducting. December 7, the traditional opening night of the Scala season, was regularly an Abbado/Strehler night and expectations ran correspondingly high.

Strehler, with his commanding frame and mass of wavy silver hair, was a colossus in the European theatre. During his lengthy career he directed well over two hundred different plays. But there were certain playwrights and certain pieces he returned to time and again: Brecht's *Dreigoschenoper (Threepenny Opera)* was one, Shakespeare's *The Tempest* another. Goldoni and Chekhov were other favourites.

He once said that there were four people who influenced his mastery of stagecraft: Stanislavsky, Copeau, Jouvet and Brecht. The first two he never met, and learnt from them only by second-hand accounts and through writings and photographs. It is perhaps no coincidence that the latter pair, whom he did know, both died disappointed men.

In Strehler, too, there was a strong streak of melancholy, which he conquered by his total devotion to the theatre. Under Strehler's guiding hands performers, whether they were actors or singers, *lived* their parts.

Giorgio Strehler spent his childhood near Trieste, where his father was a violinist, and his early ambition was to be a conductor. His parents soon separated and he was taken by his mother to Milan. He did not see his first play until he was 15; but it was by Goldoni, and so another lifelong passion began.

After studying acting at the Accademia dei Filodrammatici in Milan, he developed a friendship with Paolo Grassi. During the war he served in the Italian Army in Slovenia, Croatia and Greece. After the Italian surrender to the Allies in September 1943 he made his way home, and joined the Resistance in northern Italy. In 1944 he was ordered by the Committee of National Liberation to go to Switzerland and give anti-Fascist instruction to Italian military refugees. In 1945 he was moved to Geneva, where, with his own company of multinational and multilingual actors, he staged Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral* and Camus' *Caligula*. On returning to Milan after the war, he spent a brief period as theatre critic for an evening paper. But he was soon directing, generally concentrating on the moderns: Pirandello and Salacrou.

The turning point for Strehler came when he was 26 and decided to found, with Grassi, the Piccolo Teatro in Milan. This was a popular theatre, in opposition to the commercial variety. It was a struggle to keep the Piccolo Teatro going, but he and Grassi succeeded. And Strehler also found time to stage the first of what were to be many operas at La Scala, *La traviata*, conducted by Jonel Parlea.

The early 1950s were a period of intense activity, with Strehler regularly taking on almost a production a month. As the Piccola Scala, the theatre also turned to chamber opera in the shape of Cimarosa's *Il matrimonio segreto*. In 1956 there were Strehler productions of two plays that will for ever be associated with him: Brecht's *Threepenny Opera* (with Tino Carraro and Milly), which ran for almost 200 performances, and Goldoni's *A Servant of Two Masters*, a production which was to be seen in fifty *European cities.*

In 1965 he went to Salzburg to direct Mozart's *Entführung* in the small Festspielhaus in a production which was quickly recognised as a classic, not least because of its use of light and shadow. Salzburg, which then had a habit of dispensing with productions quite quickly, acknowledged its quality by keeping it in its festival, off and on, for almost ten years.



He was less successful in 1974 with a *Zauberflöte* in the big house, which had its ludicrous moments and caused considerable friction with Salzburg's governing genius and the conductor of the piece, *the egotistical Herbert* von Karajan.

Strehler was also having some troubles back in Milan. In 1968 he announced his resignation from the Piccolo Teatro after 20 years at the helm, sickened by the political intrigues which were germane to the city's theatrical life. He founded his own company, Gruppo Teatro e Azione.

Then, in 1969, Rome offered him the directorship of the Teatro Stabile; he accepted — and as quickly turned it down, fearing that he would once more be embroiled in political argument. By 1973 he was back at the Piccolo Teatro as *sole director following* Grassi's appointment as general administrator at La Scala.

The 1970s were the years of Strehler's great opera productions, at La Scala: apart from *Simon Boccanegra*, there were memorable performances of Verdi's *Macbeth* and Prokofiev's *Love of Three Oranges*. When Paris decided to put on opera at Versailles with Solti in the pit, Strehler was chosen to direct *Le nozze di Figaro*.

In 1982 Jack Lang, the French Minister of Culture, appointed Strehler as the director of the Théâtre de l'Europe. The play which *commanded his attention the most* in the mid-1980s was *The Tempest*, but he returned, in 1986, to the *Threepenny Opera* with the Théâtre de l'Europe company, at the Châtelet in Paris.

He was twice married: first, during the war, to Rosita Lupi, a drama student, and, secondly, to the German actress Andrea Jonasson. He had no children.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Michael Anderson, Vicar, Margate All Saints (Canterbury): to be also Honorary Canon of Canterbury Cathedral (same diocese).

The Rev John Ansell, Team Vicar, Mortlake w East Sheen (Southwark): to be Vicar, Mitcham St Peter and St Paul (same diocese).

The Rev Philip Ball, Vicar, Hayes St Edmund of Canterbury (London): to be Team Rector, Bicester (Oxford).

The Rev Peter Binns, NSM, Hawridge w Cholesbury and St Leonard, and Lee St John the Baptist (Oxford): to be NSM, Amersham on the Hill St Michael (same diocese).

The Rev Iver Cornish, NSM, Aston Clinton w Buckland and Drayton Beauchamp (Oxford): to be NSM, Hawridge w Cholesbury and St Leonards, and Lee St John the Baptist (same diocese).

The Rev Liz Dodds, Ecumenical Social Responsibility Officer (Coventry): to be also Priest-in-Charge, Churchover w Willey (same diocese).

The Rev Dorothy Derrick, NSM, Great Missenden w Ballinger and Little Hampden (Oxford): to be NSM Priest-in-Charge, Drayton St Peter, Berkshire (same diocese).

The Rev Peter Dominy, Team Rector, Broadwater (Chichester): to be Priest-in-Charge, Danehill (same diocese).

The Rev Hugh Ellis, Priest-in-Charge, Bradfield and Stanford Dingley (Oxford): to be Rector, same benefice.

The Rev Peter Jackson, Team Vicar, Moor Allerton with special responsibility for Alwoodley St Barnabas (Ripon): to be Vicar, Holbeck (same diocese).

The Rev David Jaimy, Chaplain, Bishop Stopford School (Peterborough): to be Priest-in-Charge, Turners Hill (Chichester).

The Rev Keith Jeffries, Team Vicar, Wood Green w Bounds Green (London): to be Curate-in-Charge, Hydneye Conventional District (Chichester).

The Rev Geoffrey Kimber, Rector, Arley (Coventry): to be also Priest-in-Charge, Ansley St Lawrence (same diocese).

The Rev Gillian Kimber, formerly Assistant Curate, Hartshill Holy Trinity (Coventry): to be Parish Deacon, Ansley St Lawrence (same diocese).

The Rev David Kitley, Vicar, Dartford Christ Church (Rochester): to be also Rural Dean of Dartford (same diocese).

The Rev Jane Knowles, NSM Assistant Curate, Sandhurst St Michael and All Angels (Oxford): to be Assistant Curate, Wargrave St Mary the Virgin (same diocese).

The Rev Charles Lansdale, Team Rector, Moulsecoomb (Chichester): to be Vicar, Eastbourne St Mary (same diocese).

The Rev Gerard Moate, Vicar, Dedham St Mary the Virgin (Chelmsford): to be also Rural Dean of Dedham and Tey (same diocese).

The Rev Keith Mobberley, Vicar, Keresley and Coundon (Coventry): to be Priest-in-Charge, Hatton w Haseley, Rowington w Lowsonford and Honiley and Wroxall.

The Rev Gordon Murray, Team Rector, Walworth St Peter (Southwark): to be Priest-in-Charge, Tillington (Chichester).

The Rev David Neville, with permission to officiate (Southwell): to be Vicar, Carrington St John the Evangelist (same diocese).

THE DISTRESSED AREAS

LORD MAYOR'S FUND

The Lord Mayor's Fund for the relief of distress in the mining areas amounted yesterday to over £325,000. Large numbers of letters enclosing donations in response to the appeal which was broadcast by the Prince of Wales on the evening of Chrismas Day continue to arrive by every post, and it has been difficult for the special staff at the Mansion House to keep pace with the task of handling them. Assistance has been given by members of some of the neighbouring banks.

In nearly every case the donors make it clear that their gifts are sent in direct response to the Prince's appeal. The Prime Minister yesterday forwarded to the Lord Mayor a postal order for 1s which he had received from a widow in Buckinghamshire, with the accompanying letter:-

Only a widow's mite, but God will put His blessing upon it, because I have asked Him, for the poor miners' children.

Another letter was from Mr. T. R. Ferens, who for many years represented Hull in the House of Commons. Writing from Holderness House, Hull, Mr. Ferens states:-

Immediately after the Prince of Wales had finished his appeal on behalf of the miners last night we took up a collection at our Christmas party, and I have pleasure in handing you a cheque for the proceeds — £103.

An interesting suggestion for members of middle-class homes is made by a Finchley donor, who, in enclosing 10s contributed by the four members of his family in response to the Prince's appeal, writes:-

The amount enclosed is, of course, insignificant, I cannot but feel, however, that if each middle-class home would make a similar minimum contribution of 2s 6d per head — which I suggest many hundreds of thousands could well afford to do — the aggregate amount thus collected, supplemented by the Government grant, would represent a worthy addition to a fund with the objects of which all right-thinking men and women must be in complete sympathy.

The Rev. Edward T. Butler, rector of Sherfield English, near Romsey, has sent a cheque for £118 5s 6d, the amount of the church offertory last Sunday. This sum, the rector states, is a record collection for the church of Sherfield, which is a small parish on the borders of the New Forest.

A STRICKEN VILLAGE

(From a Correspondent)

Bishop Auckland, Dec. 28

Christmastide has been made immeasurably brighter in this stricken district by the help which has been received from all parts of the country, and, though the relief which has come to the distressed mining communities is only temporary in character, it has served to bring joy into thousands of homes where pleasure has been for long only a memory.

On December 10 the Rev. Stephen Davison, vicar of St. Helen's Auckland, in a letter published in *The Times*, described the acute distress which prevails in West Auckland, and readers have sent to him gifts of money and goods. Warm clothing has been one of the most urgent needs, and woollen underclothing, suits, boots, and other articles have formed a large proportion of the gifts.

ON THIS DAY

December 29, 1928

The popularity of the Prince of Wales, later King Edward VIII and, finally, Duke of Windsor, is shown by the response to his broadcast for help for impoverished mining areas.

THE TIMES TODAY MONDAY DECEMBER 29 1997

NEWS

Plea for calm after Ulster murders

■ Mo Mowlam begged for restraint after a former IRA terrorist was shot dead in retaliation for the murder of Billy Wright, the Loyalist Vounteer Force leader.

Masked LVF gunmen killed Seamus Dillon, a doorman at the Dungannon Hotel in Co Tyrone, and injured three other Roman Catholics, including a 14-year-old boy. Police believe they had intended to open fire on 300 teenagers at a disco at the hotel ..... Pages 1, 2

Bar chief seeks to curb legal fees

■ Heather Hallett, QC, the new chairman of the Bar Council, wants curbs to contain the costs in high-profile criminal trials. She is to set up a task force to consider a contracts system under which barristers would tender for defence work at a fixed rate, quoted in advance..... Page 1

Chicken cull

Every chicken in Hong Kong is to be slaughtered in an attempt to contain the avian flu that has killed four people. More than a million birds will be killed and burnt..... Pages 1, 13

Mobile tagging

The mobile phone can be used as a tracking device to locate users to within a few hundred yards. Police in Switzerland and Australia are already taking advantage of the technology..... Page 1

Labour clash

Labour has called on the rebel MEPs Ken Coates and Hugh Kerr to "do the decent thing" and quit the party ..... Page 2

Window shopping

A Georgian shopfront lovingly brought home to Faversham from America is languishing in a builders' yard because the shop has become a Chinese restaurant and the owners do not want it re-installed ..... Page 3

Sir Paul Getty

J Paul Getty Jnr's honorary knighthood is likely to be upgraded to the full title now that he has been granted British citizenship..... Page 5

City driving

John Prescott is being urged to shelve a plan to charge motorists for entering cities after suggestions that it would not solve congestion..... Page 6

Mother's quest

Eve Gamson is flying to the Bahamas to try to "shame" the police there into finding whoever murdered her schoolteacher daughter. She believes that Carol Leach was killed because of her outspoken views about drug dealers ..... Page 7

The M factor

The Millennium Commission has spent £25,000 on a logo bearing the letter "M" to identify the 114 projects marking the year 2000. It has also adopted the motto "In the spirit of the future"..... Page 10

Cyrano lives

France celebrated the centenary of the first performance of *Cyrano de Bergerac* with a revival of Rostand's play and calls for his swashbuckling spirit to live again..... Page 11

Kenyan vote

Widespread vote-rigging has been reported in the run-up to the Kenyan general election in which President Moi is seeking a fifth and final term of office. The President's Kanu party is being accused of buying votes ..... Page 12

Rescue mission

Convoys of army troops, church workers and volunteers went to the rescue of hundreds of Indian villagers held in near-slavery by armed groups that are blamed for massacre of 45 people in the Mexican state of Chiapas ..... Page 14

Secret service to open spy hotline

■ A telephone hotline that will enable amateur spies to give MI5 secret information is to be launched in the new year after much agonising about attracting the wrong sort of caller. The line is intended to provide a confidential link into MI5 for anyone in a highly sensitive position with information about terrorist groups or criminal organisations..... Page 1

MARTIN BEDDALL



Ballet students from all over the world began a week of tuition at the Royal Academy of Dancing leading to a gala competition

BUSINESS

Benefit Squeeze: Up to £15 billion of benefits that are not means-tested, including disability living allowance and attendance allowance as well as child benefit, could be taxed ..... Page 48

Korean crisis: Commercial banks from three continents are to meet to agree a common front to roll over Korean loans and stem the bankruptcies threatening their own balance sheets ..... Page 48

Burger brawl: America's hamburger wars are set to cross the Atlantic as Burger King, forever a distant second to McDonald's, challenges its rival with new-formula potato chips and new branches... Page 44

New jobs: B&Q aims to create 1,500 jobs at six vast new do-it-yourself warehouses next year..... Page 48

FEATURES

Polar adventure: Margaret Speedie had never been further south than Majorca — until a picture of a penguin inspired an Antarctic expedition..... Page 17

Fresh approach: Her slogan is *Mwanzo Mpya* — Swahili for "a new beginning". David Orr on Charity Ngilu, the woman challenging President Moi..... Page 17

MIND AND MATTER

Brain power: Why are inner-city children afraid of snakes, why do people like art and why are poor young men murdered over trivial incidents?..... Page 15

FASHION

Eternal youth? Putting on the style in middle age ..... Page 16

ARTS

Melvyn Bragg: "Ted Hughes's new working of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* is without doubt the most exciting, addictive collection of poems in English written in recent and not so recent times" ..... Page 18

Busy baton: Not even a heart attack could keep the conductor Mariss Jansons from driving himself as hard as ever..... Page 18

Anniversary show: To mark the last lap of the independence anniversary celebrations, the British Museum and British Council have jointly created a major exhibition for India..... Page 18

Architectural landmark: After the Dome, the New Parliamentary Building in Bridge Street is set to be the most prominent new building of the millennium ..... Page 19

SPORT

Football: Jürgen Klinsmann's eagerly-awaited return to Tottenham Hotspur ended in a 1-1 draw against Arsenal and was followed by a threat that Christian Gross may resign as head coach at White Hart Lane..... Pages 25, 26, 32

Cricket: Australia hold the upper hand after the third day of the first Test against South Africa, despite a ferocious spell of fast bowling by Allan Donald ..... Page 33

Racing: Adrian Maguire faces a lengthy spell out of the sport after he aggravated a wrist injury in a fall from Hurricane Lamp at Kempton on Saturday. He aims to be back for the Cheltenham Festival in March ..... Page 38

Rugby union: Newcastle moved to the top of the Allied Dunbar Premiership with a resounding 50-8 win at Bristol..... Page 31

American football: The Denver Broncos gained revenge for a traumatic defeat a year ago when they beat the Jacksonville Jaguars in the NFL wild-card play-off..... Page 35

I say, I say: The best — and worst — quotes of the year..... Page 34



IN THE TIMES

■ ARTS
Launceston local: how Charles Causley finds poetry in Cornwall's rural landscape

■ LAW
A review of the best, the worst and the oddest of the legal year, by David Pannick, QC

LOTTERY

14, 21, 28, 31, 40, 44 Bonus: 9

Three tickets each won £2,868,377: 36 matched five balls and the bonus to win £73,548: 1,026 received £1,612 for five balls; 52,284 won £69 for four and 995,507 won £10 for three balls.

TV & RADIO

Preview: Fifty pupils from the last Jewish school under Hitler are reunited in *The Lost Children of Berlin* (BBC2, 8pm) **Review:** Matthew Bond finds quality a surprise amid the mediocre..... Pages 46, 47

OPINION

Maze of error

Policy towards Maze prisoners has endangered the security of inmates, warders and indeed the whole Province. The need for reassurance is pressing ..... Page 21

Zambian follies

Kenneth Kaunda's detention has about it a certain symmetry. In his 27 disastrous years as Zambian President, he consigned plenty of political opponents to rot, without trial, in prison. But that does not make the action against him just or wise..... Page 21

The celebrity albatross

Norman Mailer has travelled from early celebrity through wasted promise to a point where he refuses ever to surrender the struggle, the American odyssey captured in one man's journey ..... Page 21

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With Bond we are back to barbarism. He has the virtues of courage and loyalty, but few others. He is a high technology killer and a sadistic womaniser..... Page 20

PETER RIDDELL
Redefining the role of government has become the central challenge facing Tony Blair ..... Page 20

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This defence review should not be about cutting the number of tanks, fighter bombers and submarines. Of course the Army will need tanks ..... Page 20

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Brigadier Angus Irwin; Giorgio Strehler, director; Masaru Ibuka, Sony founder..... Page 23

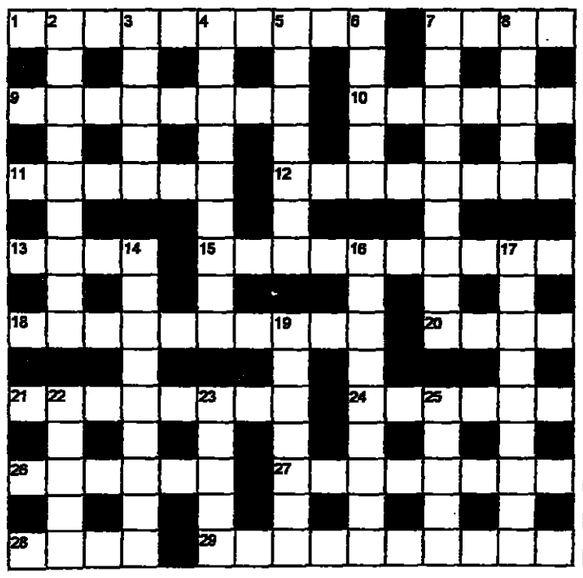
LETTERS

Minister's son on drug charge; lone parent needs; tax rises and the Tories..... Page 21

THE PAPERS

With each sneeze of the Russian President, the entire world wonders and worries. However, the power of the master of the Kremlin is fading — *Le Monde*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,674



ACROSS

1 Flap causing diversion of food supplies away from air route (10).
7 Starchy food to act as starter, we hear — or pudding (4).
9 Interval in play newly produced at centre (8).
10 Play song, netting very little in return (6).
11 Seek to obtain funds to cover initiation of union (6).
12 To show greater tolerance could be stupid (8).
13 Elegant tail taken from young bird (4).
15 Where travellers pay two pounds, going in to game (4,6).
18 Lock out by person getting through, an intruder (10).
20 Sound cure for swine (4).
21 Woman secures employment building roundabout (8).
24 It's barely recognisable as a state (6).
26 Live, enjoy possessions, and conduct oneself appropriately (6).
27 Revolting island corporation rejected common sense (8).
28 Defer visit (4).
29 Easily affordable amount of plant husband accumulated (10).

DOWN

2 Clerk found place to confine drug dealer (3-6).
3 Bugs originally reproducing in rocks (5).
4 Players organised short race (9).
5 Word a learner employed to cover hot air current (7).
6 In which some get their cut and others make a bob or two! (5).
7 Winkle, for example, sounding unconcerned about others when drunk (9).
8 Weather instrument in schooner, say (5).
14 Usual sort of cot accommodating American girl (9).
16 Distinguished commoner's rank, and so on, eclipsed by noble's (9).
17 Relative upset work unit with a gibe (5-4).
19 Wise man's unaccompanied flight takes half a day (7).
22 Turn away head of dairy leaving bill (5).
23 Upset old PM's rest (5).
25 Wild animal died during vigorous activity (5).

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INFORMATION

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 8.06 am — Sun sets: 3.59 pm
Moon sets 4.19 pm — Moon rises 7.22 am

New moon today
London 3.59 pm to 8.06 am
Bristol 4.09 pm to 8.16 am
Edinburgh 3.46 pm to 8.44 am
Manchester 3.57 pm to 8.25 am
Penzance 4.27 pm to 8.21 am

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Recycled paper made up 43.6% of the raw materials for UK newspapers in the second half of 1996

FORECAST

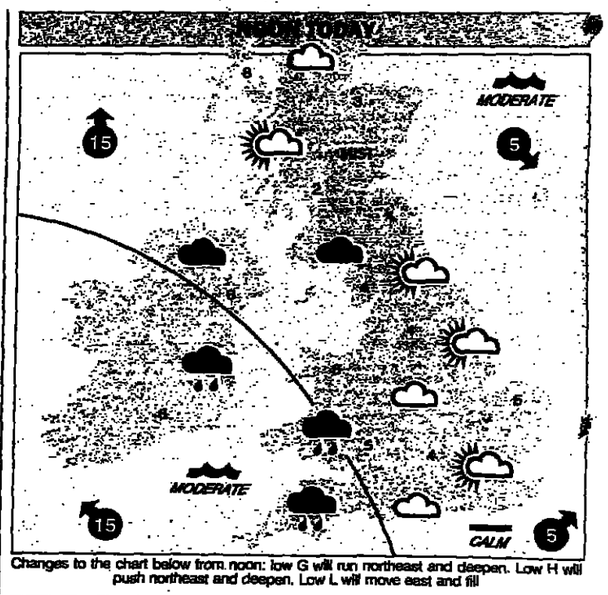
☐ **General:** England and Wales will start largely dry with patchy fog and frost in the North and East. Rain will gradually spread from the West tonight to all areas.
Scotland will start cold but brighten up before rain in the west. Northern Ireland will be increasingly overcast with rain
☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia:** early mist and low cloud will disperse to leave a mostly dry day with bright spells. A light south-westerly wind. Max 9C (48F).
☐ **E Midlands, E England, Central N, NE England:** cold start with fog and frost slow to clear. Mainly dry with some sun. Light southwesterly wind. Max 8C (46F).
☐ **Central S England, W Midlands, NW England, Lakes, IoM:** fog and frost will clear but cloud will thicken from the west with a growing threat of rain this afternoon. A freshening southerly wind. Max 8C (48F).
☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, Wales:** clouding over with outbreaks of rain spreading from the west. A strengthening southerly wind. Max 11C (52F).
☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** a cold and misty start but mainly dry with some sunshine developing. Max 8C (46F).
☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland:** early fog and frost will clear to leave a little sunshine, but cloud will thicken from the west with heavy rain later. Max 8C (46F).
☐ **N Ireland:** cloud will thicken from the west with heavy rain and strong southerly winds for the afternoon. Max 8C (48F).
☐ **Republic of Ireland:** rain spreading from southwest, dying out later. Wind southeast moderate or fresh becoming southwest light. Max 10C (50F).
☐ **Outlook:** unsettled with mild, wet and windy weather on Tuesday, followed by brighter but colder weather on Wednesday.

ABROAD

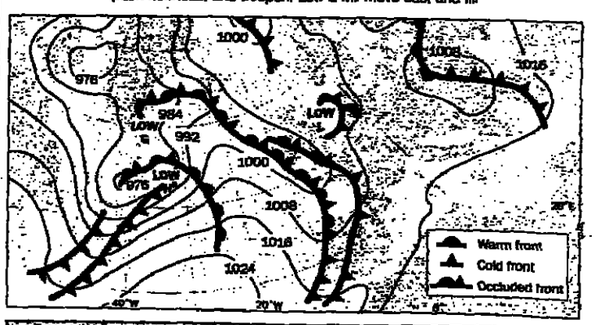
Ajaccio	13	55	s	G'phagn	4	39	r	Malaga	14	57	f	S Paulo	X		
Akrotiri	16	61	s	Dublin	7	45	d	Malta	X			Salzburg	3	37	r
Alex'dria	18	64	f	Dubrovnik	12	54	c	Melb'rne	18	64	s	Santiago	24	75	s
Algiers	15	59	f	Faro	13	55	f	Mexico C	19	66	s	Seoul	6	41	s
Amst'dm	7	45	r	Florence	10	50	s	Miami	28	82	s	Sing'por	32	90	f
Athens	13	55	f	Frankfurt	6	43	c	Milan	4	39	f	St'kholm	-5	23	c
B Aires	26	79	s	Funchal	20	68	f	Montreal	1	34	x	Strasb'rg	6	43	c
Bahrain	19	66	f	Geneva	5	41	c	Moscow	2	36	c	Sydney	21	70	c
Bangkok	33	91	s	Gibraltar	15	59	f	Munich	3	37	s	Tangier	13	55	c
Barbados	29	84	f	Helsinki	-8	21	c	N Delhi	11	52	fg	Tel Aviv	19	66	s
Barcelona	10	50	f	Hong K	22	72	f	N York	2	36	r	Tenerife	21	70	s
Beirut	18	64	s	Innsbruck	3	37	r	Nairobi	24	75	c	Tokyo	14	57	c
Belgrade	5	41	r	Istanbul	11	52	f	Naples	13	55	s	Toronto	3	37	c
Berlin	5	41	c	Jeddah	27	81	c	Nice	13	55	s	Tunis	14	57	c
Bermuda	23	73	f	Jo'burg	27	81	f	Oslo	-1	30	c	Valencia	14	57	s
Biarritz	12	54	f	Karachi	X			Paris	3	37	c	Vanc'ver	1	34	f
Borde'x	10	50	s	L. Angeles	14	57	s	Peking	4	39	s	Venice	8	46	s
Brussels	6	43	s	L Palmas	20	68	c	Perth	27	81	s	Vienna	6	43	f
Budapest	7	45	c	La Tquet	9	48	f	Prague	4	39	f	Warsaw	4	39	c
Cairo	19	66	s	Lisbon	15	59	r	Reykjavik	-5	23	s	Wash'ton	X		
Cape Tn	23	73	s	Locarno	8	46	s	Rhodes	15	59	c	Wel'ngton	19	66	s
Ch'church	19	66	s	Luxembg	4	39	c	Rio de J	39	102	f	Zurich	5	41	c
Chicago	-2	28	s	Luxor	22	72	s	Riyadh	17	63	s				
Cologne	6	43	f	Madrid	6	43	f	Roma	13	55	s				
Corfu	14	57	f	Majorca	14	57	f	S Fr'isco	8	46	s				

Temperatures at midday local time X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: low G will run northeast and deepen. Low H will push northeast and deepen. Low L will move east and fill



ABROAD (24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dust; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder)

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	4.3	-	7	45	s	Leeds	-	0.04	8	46	r
Anglesey	X					Lerwick	-	0.17	6	43	sh
Aspatria	0.5	0.26	7	45	r	Leuchars	4.4	0.01	8	46	c
Aviemore	1.2	0.01	5	41	b	Littlehmptn	1.0	-	8	46	s
Belfast	-	0.05	6	43	r	London	0.5	0.02	8	46	c
Birmingham	-	0.19	7	45	r	Lowestoft	-	0.02	6	43	c
Bognor R	1.6	-	9	48	b	Manchester	-	0.24	8	46	r
Bournem'th	2.9	-	10	50	b	Margate	2.0	0.08	7	45	c
Bristol	0.7	0.01	9	48	c	Minehead	4.2	0.01	10	50	s
Buxton	-	0.56	5	41	r	Newcastle	0.9	0.23	6	43	b
Cardiff	0.6	0.01	9	48	sh	Newquay	4.2	-	11	52	s
Clacton	1.2	0.11	6	43	r	Norwich	0.2	0.04	7	45	r
Cleethorpes	X					Oxford		0.04	6	43	r
Cromer	-	0.08	7	45	sh	Penzance	X	0.03	12	54	s
Eastbourne	1.8	0.01	9	48	du	Poole	3.6	-	11	52	s
Edinburgh	X					Prestatyn	X	0.18	7	45	r
Eskdalemuir	1.4	0.13	4	39	r	Ross-o-wye	-	0.01	8	46	c
Exmouth	4.8	0.01	10	50	s	Saunton Strd	2.5	-	9	48	s
Falmouth	6.7	-	13	55	s	Scarboro'	-	0.22	5	41	r
Fishguard	0.5	0.01	9	48	c	Shrewsbury	-	0.27	8	46	r
Folkestone	3.7	0.11	8	46	r	Skegness	-	0.11	9	48	r
Glasgow	2.4	0.15	7	45	sh	Southport	-	0.20	9	48	r
Guernsey	5.9	0.02	12	54	s	Stornoway	1.4	0.19	7	45	sh
Hastings	1.9	-	9	48	b	Swanage	5.1	-	11	52	s
Hayling I.	2.6	-	10	50	b	Teignmouth	6.3	0.01	11	52	s
Herne Bay	2.4	0.06	7	45	b	Tenby	3.2	0.01	11	52	s
Hove	1.4	-	9	48	b	Tiree	5.1	0.14	8	46	r
Hunstanton	X	0.10	7	45	r	Torquay	7.2	-	12	54	s
Isle-of-wight	5.0	-	10	50	s	West-s-mare	-	-	9	48	c
Jersey	5.1	0.05	10	50	s	Weymouth	6.0	-	11	52	s

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Aberdeen	0:46	4.1	1:01	4.3	Leith	2:09	5.3	2:25	5.4
Avonmouth	8:40	12.9	7:01	12.9	Liverpool	10:45	9.2	11:06	9.1
Bellast	10:36	3.4	10:55	3.4	London Bridge	1:09	6.8	1:31	6.9
Cardiff	--	1.9	-	2.0	Lowestoft	8:57	2.4	9:16	2.5
Devonport	5:18	5.4	5:41	5.2	Margate	11:39	4.5	-	-
Dover	10:27	6.4	10:51	6.5	Milford Haven	5:43	6.7	6:03	6.7
Dublin	11:06	4.0	11:32	3.9	Newquay	4:35	6.7	4:55	6.7
Falmouth	4:49	5.2	5:12	5.0	Obart	5:28	3.9	5:35	3.9
Greenock	-	-	12:25	3.4	Penzance	4:04	5.4	4:22	5.3
Harwich	11:31	3.9	11:51	3.9	Portland	8:24	2.1	8:52	2.0
Holyhead	9:54	5.5	10:15	5.4	Portsmouth	10:54	4.8	11:20	4.6
Hull (Albert D)	5:49	8.2	6:07	8.5	Shoreham	10:39	6.0	11:05	6.0
Ilfracombe	5:30	8.9	5:49	8.8	Southampton	10:14	4.5	10:38	4.5
King's Lynn	5:51	6.3	6.11	-	Swansea	5:51	9.1	6.12	9.1
					Tees	3:10	5.2	3.27	5.4

Crown copyright reserved. Heights in metres.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Falmouth, Cornwall, 13C (55F); ; lowest day max: Spadeadam, Cumbria, 3C (37F); ; highest rainfall: Capel Curig, North Wales, 1.36in; highest sunshine: Torquay, Devon, 7.2hr

HIGH PRESSURE?
The Samaritans 0345 90 90 90

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مكذا من الإصل

UNDER THE SKIN OF SPORT



SOCIAL CLIMBERS
Why the rock face can offer sport for all
PAGE 37

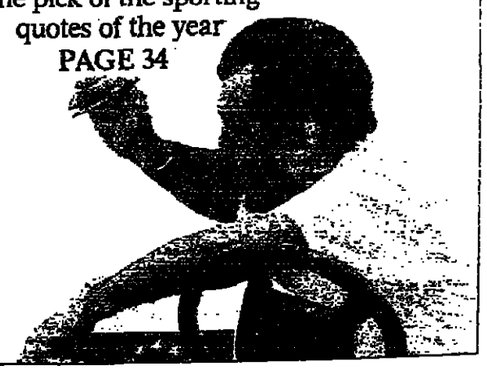


BLACK MAGIC
Newcastle inflict further gloom on Bristol
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PLUS
LYNNE TRUSS
On a trip down Memory Lane
PAGE 32



WORD OF MOUTH
The pick of the sporting quotes of the year
PAGE 34



TIMES SPORT

MONDAY DECEMBER 29 1997

TOTTENHAM BRACED FOR WINTER OF DISCONTENT



Klinsmann was greeted as a returning hero at White Hart Lane yesterday, but Tottenham Hotspur's performance in a dull draw against Arsenal revealed the depth of his team's plight. Photograph: Gill Allen

Klinsmann fails to provide quick fix on homecoming

By Oliver Holt
Football Correspondent

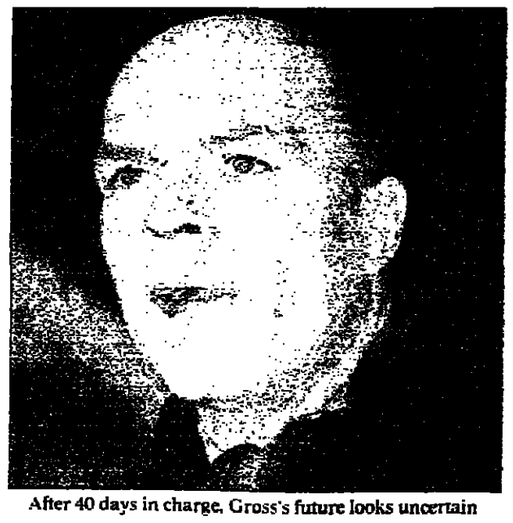
THE aftermath of the second coming was supposed to be a deafening chorus of hallelujahs and hosannas. Instead, on the dreariest of winter evenings at White Hart Lane, the return of Jürgen Klinsmann turned into a depressing dirge yesterday. If the Germany striker had been thinking of quick fixes, he soon discovered that this Tottenham Hotspur side is for the rest of the season, not just for Christmas.

If anything, the gloom that has settled even deeper since the departure of Gerry Francis and his replacement by Christian Gross seemed to have darkened after Klinsmann was rushed back from his festive break in Italy to play a fitful part in a scrappy, uninspiring 1-1 draw with their North London rivals, Arsenal.

His return raised more questions than it answered. It left the supporters wondering whether the Klinsmann of this vintage, 2½ years older than when he last played in the FA Carling Premiership, was as valuable as the one that had left amid such acrimony; whether, like David Ginola and Les Ferdinand, he might be another expensive signing who is past his best.

The malaise, though, runs far deeper than that. The point won yesterday did not push Tottenham up the table, it rammed them even further down. Everton leapt over them with a 3-2 win over Bolton Wanderers, so that Gross and his team ended the afternoon just one place off the bottom, two points ahead of Barnsley, who also won. To add to their misery, Coventry City, their fellow strugglers, pulled off the shock of the day with a 3-2 victory over Manchester United.

If that was not bad enough, Gross, who has only been in charge of Tottenham for 40 days, cut a thoroughly dejected figure after the match. He refused to deny reports that he was considering resigning because of the club's failure to secure a work permit for the man he wants as his assistant, Fritz Schmidt, a fitness instructor. He also admitted that Darren Anderton, the winger who has been plagued with injuries for three years, had broken down again in training last week and may need a groin operation that will lead to another long lay-off. To compound that news, Gross said that Ferdinand had aggravated a thigh injury during training on Christmas Day. He, too, may be out for up to a month.



After 40 days in charge, Gross's future looks uncertain

So, even though Klinsmann cajoled with the best of them, urged his colleagues on and chased the most parlous of lost causes, his contribution was negligible in the face of the overwhelming negativity that Tottenham are drowning in.

The only suggestion that Klinsmania might be rewarded came in the 28th minute, when a blond head appeared in the Arsenal box and Fox's cross was half-volleyed beyond Seaman to open the scoring. If it had been a day for fairy-tales, it would have been Klinsmann's right boot that connected with the cross. On this day, it was written that it should be Allan Nielsen's instead.

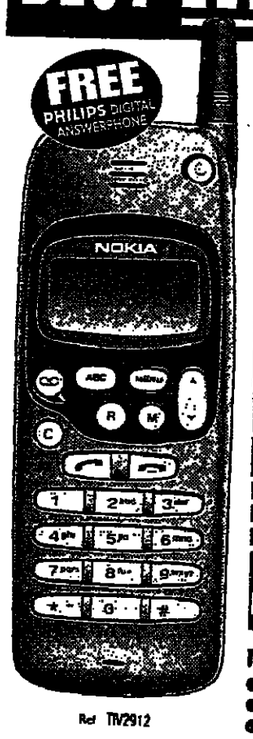
Even that excitement quickly subsided, though. In his previous reign at White Hart Lane, Klinsmann was surrounded by high-quality players at the top of their game. Anderton was in his pomp providing the crosses, Sheringham was the best strike partner the German had been paired with and Barmby was a livewire. Yesterday, Klinsmann found himself immersed in mediocrity. Campbell is a giant at the back and there were signs that there may be some sort of meeting of minds between Klinsmann and Ginola, but, that apart, Klinsmann looked like a fish out of water, floundering amid lesser talents.

As Gross took refuge in post-match platitudes, insisting that he could not say how his situation was affected by the indecision surrounding Schmidt and that he hoped things would be resolved when Government offices reopened after the festive break, Klinsmann was dashing back to Italy, steeling himself for a permanent return next week and the long, hard winter that lies ahead.

"I was very nervous before the game because of the way I have been greeted here by the fans," Klinsmann said. "Their reception made me shiver. The game went OK. It was a little step forward, but it will take more for us to improve. I know what to expect, but I am not Santa Claus."

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BARNSLEY	BLACKBURN ROVERS	COVENTRY CITY	EVERTON	LEEDS UTD	LEICESTER CITY	NEWCASTLE UTD	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	WIMBLEDON
1	2	3	3	1	1	1	1	1
0	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	2
DERBY COUNTY	CRYSTAL PALACE	MANCHESTER UTD	BOLTON WANDERERS	ASTON VILLA	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	LIVERPOOL	ARSENAL	WEST HAM

TOP OF THE TABLE

	Played	Points
1. Manchester Utd	21	46
2. Blackburn	21	41
3. Chelsea	20	39
4. Liverpool	20	37
5. Leeds	21	35
6. Arsenal	20	34
7. Derby	21	32
8. West Ham	21	31

poses, they are mirrors." Rod Eldon:

صكذا من الإصل.

Two-goal McManaman revels in unlimited freedom



McManaman: fine strikes

NEWCASTLE UNITED 1
LIVERPOOL 2
By Ivo Tennant

FOR a player who has long been perceived as not scoring as many goals as he should, Steve McManaman did not fare too badly in yesterday's FA Carling Premiership encounter at St James' Park, the first of two matches between the clubs in ten days.

Twice he struck shots with power and no little accuracy to bring about a well-merited victory. Newcastle chose not to man-mark him, or, for that matter, to do much about countering him when he did have the ball. The upshot was not a one-sided match, for they had a number of reasonable chances, but their tactics were again questionable.

As so often in the past, it was a thrilling contest and one which will give Liverpool succour for their Coca-Cola Cup quarter-final on the ground.

A total of 236 minutes had elapsed since Newcastle had last scored when Watson gave them the lead after a quarter of an hour. Such a statistic was all the more poignant given that, exactly a year ago, a 7-1 victory over Tottenham Hotspur was something of a statement of intent. Much has changed since then, a great deal of it not the supporters' taste.

Gillespie switched flanks to take a free kick that Watson, one of three centre backs deployed by Kenny Dalglish, headed down and beyond James. Preferred once again to Freidel, the goalkeeper could not be faulted on this occasion. Indeed, he had done well earlier to parry a left-footed drive by Barnes during a period in which Newcastle had rarely ventured beyond the halfway line.

There had been nothing awry with Liverpool's approach play, especially when Redknapp was collecting the ball in midfield and initiating attacks down the right wing, where McAteer overlapped constantly and vigorously. McManaman, too, was not short of possession, although he was forced to come deeper than, perhaps, he would ideally have liked.

Not that this mattered by half-time, for each of his goals was, in differing ways, stunning. After half an hour, Fowler, whose scoring attempts had not been fruitful, found McManaman some 40 yards from goal. Taking the pass on his chest and in his stride, McManaman volleyed past Hislop and in off the right-hand post. It was the cleanest of strikes.

Then, two minutes before half-time, McManaman began a move outside the Newcastle penalty area by finding Owen on the right. Already, this most promising of forwards had demonstrated his exceptional pace; now, he brought off the most incisive of crosses to McManaman, who had moved, unmarked, into a shooting position. A hooked, controlled volley put Liverpool 2-1 ahead. It was, at this stage, no less than they deserved. With three successive victories behind them, they were evidently in good form.

Newcastle brought on Hamilton in place of Barton for the start of the second half, but not, it transpired, for the purposes of man-marking McManaman, who continued to be given a considerable amount of space wherever he ventured on the pitch. Liverpool's next opportunity, however, fell to Leonhardsen, who, put clear by Fowler, had a shot averted by Hislop's impressive reflexes.

No sooner had this occurred than Newcastle were steaming up the other end to some effect. It was that kind of match. Gillespie had two chances in seven minutes and should have made something of at least one of them. First, he cut inside Liverpool's penalty area and, understandably choosing to place his shot, flicked it too tamely to the left of James. Kvarme had time to recover his ground and clear off the line.

Next Batty, who was countering Ince effectively in midfield, found Gillespie with the ideal through ball. The winger moved purposefully enough into Liverpool's penalty area only to shoot across goal. Once, Barnes, who had a thoroughly decent game against his old club, brought off some trickery on the right touchline, but there was too much for Asprilla to do on his own, as was the case throughout.

Still Newcastle were leaving McManaman in far too much space and, from another of his mazy runs, a free kick resulted that Fowler curled just over the bar. There was scant attempt, however, by Newcastle to reshape their tactics. They were increasingly reliant on long-range attempts, one of which, by Lee, was brilliantly touched over the bar by James.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (5-3-1-1): S Hislop — W Barton (sub: D Hamilton, 46min), S Watson, S Pearce, A Pistone, J Beresford — K Gillespie, D Batty, R Lee — J Barnes — F Asprilla.
LIVERPOOL (4-4-2): D James — J McAteer, B T Kvarme, D Matteo, S Harkness — S McManaman, J Redknapp, P Ince, O Leonhardsen — R Fowler (sub: J Carragher, 79), M Owen.
Referee: G Ashby.

Ward's goal rewards Barnsley's hard work

BARNSLEY 1
DERBY COUNTY 0
By Richard Hobson

FOUR minutes from the end, the Barnsley crowd reprised their triumphant cry of the promotion campaign. "It's just like watching Brazil," they chorused. On an extremely cold afternoon, it was hard to imagine a performance less Brazilian in its conception or execution. Herein lies the key to success.

Neil Redfearn, the captain, said before the game that for Barnsley to avoid relegation in their first season in the FA Carling Premiership, they should imitate Wimbledon rather than anybody else. His advice was heeded. Mocking pre-Christmas odds of 12-1 on to go down, they overpowered Derby County, creating many more chances, working like Trojans and eliminating any lapses in concentration.

For all this, however, Barnsley enter 1998 in bottom place. To move upwards, they must add consistency to the qualities demonstrated here. Danny Wilson, the manager, said: "We emphasised just how much we wanted to win. It was a very, very brave performance against a side that is flying high. I could go through the team and praise everyone of them."

Wilson had chosen an attacking side and instructed his four midfield players to pack the centre. The risk that Chris Powell and Eranio would enjoy space on the flanks was eliminated because Redfearn and Sheridan, in particular, cut off the supply lines.

Wanchope was such a rare influence, his every trick read by the outstanding De Zeeuw, that he was taken off in the second half. Carsley squandered a fine chance to put Derby ahead in the sixtieth minute and Watson saved at the feet of Sturridge in the final minute, but, otherwise, Barnsley kept the visitors outside their penalty area.

Barnsley themselves had five chances in the first half, all of the "could" variety. Twice, Redfearn rattled the bar with long-range shots. Ward saw a curving shot and a header drift narrowly wide and Bernard, from 30 yards, almost prompted a save from Poom.

Against Bolton Wanderers, two days earlier, Barnsley also had dominated the early stages but faded. This time they maintained their discipline and stranglehold to break the deadlock in the 68th minute. Ward, signed from Derby for £1.5 million earlier in the season, was an appropriate scorer. Marcelle teased Carbon, who had just replaced Laursen, before laying a back-heel into the path of Bernard striding purposefully forward. The cross was hard and low and Ward timed his run perfectly to divert it beyond Poom from six yards.

A bizarre climax could not overshadow a rousing Barnsley performance and a first home win for more than two months. Graham Barber, the referee, somehow found seven minutes of injury time and, amid great confusion, booked three Derby players — Carsley, Baiano and Yates — as Barnsley retained possession in a corner in front of the Derby supporters.

"It was an unbelievable refereeing performance," Wilson said. "We could have had a riot on our hands because of the situation he was causing." Sturridge and Moses had been booked earlier after a scuffle in front of the dugouts, but this was full-blooded, rather than vicious. In other words, Wimbledon all over.

BARNSLEY (4-4-2): D Watson — N Eaden, A De Zeeuw, A Moses, D Bernard — E Tinkler, D Sheridan, N Redfearn, C Marcelle (sub: M Bullock, 73min) — G Hristov (sub: A Liddell, 62), A Ward.
DERBY COUNTY (3-4-1-2): M Poom — D Yates, G Rowett, J Laursen (sub: M Carbon, 68) — S Eranio, L Carsley, D Powell, C Powell (sub: D Burton, 77) — R Williams — D Sturridge, P Wanchope (sub: F Baiano, 77).
Referee: G Barber.

KIERAN DOHERTY


Nielsen, the Danish midfield player, strides through between the grounded Keown and the watching Winterburn to give Tottenham the lead at White Hart Lane yesterday

Spurs' ills plague Klinsmann

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR 1
ARSENAL 1
By Oliver Holt
Football Correspondent

THE theme was supposed to be regeneration, the relighting of a fire down to its dying embers, stoked by an ageing striker trying to breathe life into his own flagging career. Instead, White Hart Lane witnessed another North London derby of numbing banality yesterday. In the place of regeneration and health, they found only sickness.

Darren Anderton is injured again. Les Ferdinand is out, too. Rumours swirl around the reasons for the absence of Tony Adams. The majesty of Dennis Bergkamp was drained by the fact that he was asked to play yesterday when he was ill. The cumulative effect was football in a sad shadowland, a place fit only for the shades of great players.

If the extent of the troubles besetting Tottenham Hotspur was emphasised by the fact that they were only briefly roused by the presence of Jürgen Klinsmann and that even then they could produce little more than sound and fury, Arsenal played their own part in an instantly forgettable match that succeeded in dousing the rejoicing that had greeted the return of the German.

Arsenal, without the suspended Ian Wright and the injured Adams, are almost unrecognisable now from the team that began the season in such a blaze of light, pressing Manchester United hard and suggesting that they would be lasting challengers for the FA Carling Premiership title this season with their polyglot side.

Languishing on the fringes of the middle of the table after a recent run of four defeats in six Premiership matches, desperately trying to stay in touch with United, Blackburn Rovers and Chelsea, Arsenal were, by the admission of their manager, Arsène Wenger, taken by surprise by the commitment that Spurs showed in the opening third of the match.

Bergkamp is symptomatic of the problems they are facing. His wonderful rhythm interrupted by the three-match ban he was forced to serve, he is struggling to hit the heights again. Yesterday, debilitated by flu, he was reduced to the role of a virtual spectator.

For much of the first half, Arsenal seemed so lacklustre that it appeared Tottenham might be allowed to play to the script written for Klinsmann and achieve an unlikely victory. Ginola forced an early save from Seaman with an acrobatic bicycle kick after a poorly cleared corner.

Klinsmann, battling to make something of the long passes pumped in his direction, managed a few flicks that fell on barren ground. For the most part, though, short of match-fitness, he was all too effectively shackled by Martin Keown.

Still, midway through the half, Tottenham took the lead. Fox pushed the ball round Winterburn and crossed from the byline. It was just too high for the German but it was met perfectly by Nielsen as he bore down on the near post and his half-volley beat Seaman low by his left-hand post.

Four minutes after that, there was more evidence that this was meant to be Tottenham's day. Arsenal put together the best move of the match. Bergkamp laying the ball into the path of Petit with a sublime back-heel and Petit curling a pass around Campbell to Anelka. Anelka hit his shot first-time past Walker but it bounced back off a post.

At half-time, Klinsmann walked off with his arm around Ginola, encouraging him, congratulating him perhaps on the occasional flashes of inspiration that had been their side's best moments until then. As Ginola's influence waned in the second half, though, so Klinsmann became increasingly frozen out of the game, banished to the periphery.

The move that ended with Anelka's miss was both the end of excellence and the end of Tottenham's charmed life. Sixteen minutes after the interval, Parlour, who was the game's most influential player, picked up a loose ball on the edge of the Spurs penalty area and drove it goalwards. Walker would have gathered it easily had it not deflected off the right instep of Vega and arrowed into the opposite corner of the net.

The rest was ordinariness personified. Ginola left with 25 minutes to go clutching a hamstring for effect and the supporters willed the survivors to free Klinsmann with every pass and every flick they produced.

In the end, Klinsmann left shrugging his shoulders, slapping hands half-heartedly with supporters and smiling weakly. It was not like this the first time around. Tottenham need to get well soon.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — S Carr, R Vega, S Campbell, C Wilson — R Fox (sub: J Dominguez, 59min), A Nielsen, C Calderwood, S Clemence — D Ginola (sub: S Iversen, 66), J Klinsmann.
ARSENAL (4-4-2): D Seaman — L Dixon (sub: G Grimandi, 25), M Keown, S Bould, N Winterburn — R Parlour, E Petit, P Vieira, M Overmars — D Bergkamp (sub: S Hughes, 79), N Anelka (sub: I Ranton, 87).
Referee: M Riley.

BACK TO THE FUTURE — LYNNE TRUSS, PAGE 32

Leicester pass up seasonal offering

LEICESTER CITY 1
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY 1
By Nick Szczepanik

IT HAS been a good year for Leicester City: there was the Coca-Cola Cup victory, a ninth-place finish in their first season back in the FA Carling Premiership and some around Filbert Street still maintain that only a contentious refereeing decision deprived them of FA Cup glory. Even so, many at the club will be happy to usher the old year on its way.

Yesterday's game was Leicester's season so far in microcosm: a lively start with plenty of highlights, petering out into anticlimax. Since Martin O'Neill's side moved into third place in late September, a steady decline has set in, with the past two months providing little cheer.

Their opponents have profited, however. Arsenal were the beneficiaries of Steve Walsh's candidate for own goal of the season on Boxing Day; Everton received the generosity of a last-minute penalty; they even allowed Francis Benali, of Southampton, to score his first goal in 287 first-team appearances for the club.

If Sheffield Wednesday were hoping for something similar to perk up the Ron Atkinson revival, which has also faded recently, they were disappointed. Instead, it was their own goalkeeper, Kevin Pressman, who was dispensing the seasonal gifts, handling Guppy's firm 27th-minute header from Izzet's right-wing cross as if it were a hot coal, fumbling it up and over his head into goal to give Leicester the lead.

By then, it could have been 3-3; crosses had been flying back and forth in front of both goals, with Leicester particularly indebted to Keller for saves from Booth's diving header and two shots from Alexandersson. Atkinson's £750,000 acquisition from IFK Gothenburg.

The dismissal of Stefanovic, who collected two needless yellow cards within the space of six minutes before half-time, and the withdrawal of Pembridge, who looked likely to follow, forced Wednesday to reorganise and the result was that Leicester seemed to slow down their build-up and too often proved content to play the ball around in front of the Wednesday defence, or settle for corner kicks.

Part of the problem was Heskey, whose customary sharpness was lacking. A blunt instrument always comes in handy, but Leicester need a cutting edge. Eleven minutes from time, for example, Heskey had a clear run on goal, but ran out of ideas and room and, finally, into Pressman's legs.

How Leicester were made to pay. With five minutes to go, Booth got free on the corner of the Leicester penalty area before sending a dipping shot over Keller and into the net. "I thought we well deserved it," Ron Atkinson, the Wednesday manager, said. "There was plenty going on and we made a lot of clear-cut chances."

Leicester's urgency belatedly returned after that, but, apart from a late scare when Claridge put the ball into the net only for Graham Poll, the referee, to cement his unpopularity with the crowd by disallowing it, Wednesday were untroubled.

"We could have won 12-3 today," O'Neill said. "The second half was one-way traffic. It's the best we've played for some time. An ominous sign, perhaps, to play like that and not win." Happy New Year anyway, Martin.

LEICESTER CITY (3-5-2): K Keller — P Kaamark, M Elkins, S Walsh (sub: S Prior, 57min) — R Savage, N Lennon, M Izzet, G Parker, S Guppy — I Marshall (sub: S Claridge, 70), E Heskey.
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K Pressman — I Nolan, D Walker, J Newsome, D Stefanovic — N Alexandersson, P Atherton, P Rudi (sub: G Hyde, 70), M Pembridge (sub: W Collins, 51; sub: R Humphreys, 84) — A Booth, B Carbone.
Referee: G Poll.

Flowers reputation is muddied by gift goal

BLACKBURN ROVERS 2
CRYSTAL PALACE 2
By Christopher Irvine

DESPITE the defeat of Manchester United, it is still more a case of Blackburn Rovers battling to keep up with the Joneses than of them catching the leaders of the FA Carling Premiership. Even in the season of goodwill, two draws and four points dropped in three days is generosity unbecoming title contenders.

Tim Flowers, the England goalkeeper, who is hoping to regain his place for the World Cup, might have decked himself out in red suit and white beard at Ewood Park yesterday as he inexplicably dropped to his knees and got bogged down in a muddy goalmouth in the opening moments of the second half. Paul Warhurst's free header bobbled over him — in much the same way that a shot by Stan Collymore, for Liverpool, struck a divot and left Flowers similarly agonised a couple of years ago.

Chris Sutton salvaged Blackburn's point with the second equaliser 14 minutes from the end, but the Palace away-day specialists proved an enduring source of frustration for Roy Hodgson, the Blackburn manager. He blamed the pitch as much as Flowers' goalkeeping for the visitors' freakish second goal, in which case he needs to further advise Steve Patrick, the groundsman, who was recently elected as the groundsman of the year.

"I was extremely angry at the manner we conceded the goal," Hodgson said. "The last goal I saw like that was in schoolboy football. Tim went down early, but he was put off by the pitch. Instead of bouncing, as it should have done, the ball pitched over his head. I don't know what steps to take — I have already told the groundsman what I think."

For all that Manchester United were beaten at Coventry, Hodgson said that he wanted to hear no more about their progress, faltering or otherwise. In his programme notes, he had written: "We do not discuss the possibilities of whether Manchester United can be overtaken. Our priority right from the start of the season was to finish high enough in the table to get the club back into Europe."

Absorb and strike must be the motto for a Palace side who have gleaned twice as many points away than at Selhurst Park. It was embodied by the opening ten minutes, as Blackburn forced a succession of corners and Flitcroft was narrowly offside while stooping for a headed goal. Committed to early attack, Rovers' defenders were notable by their absence as Emblen stealthily advanced through the middle and the unmarked Dyer met Smith's cross with an emphatic nod of the head.

Although Blackburn dominated the remainder of the half, their problems had merely begun. They were happy to see Dyer limp off after 57 minutes and that five men at the back failed to ease Palace's defensive headaches. Sutton and Gallacher prowled with poise and venom, combining beautifully for the first equaliser as Gallacher looped the ball over the stranded Miller in goal.

Had Roberts not intervened on the line to deny Sutton just before the break, Palace's spirit might have ended. Instead, it came back in waves after the second goal two minutes into the second half that will haunt Flowers. That it was scored by Warhurst, part of Blackburn's championship team three years ago, added to his indignity.

In truth, it looked a straightforward ball for Flowers as Rodgers released Warhurst for a header that the Rovers goalkeeper might have dealt with better if he had stayed upright and not committed himself quite so early. The ball reared up at him, Flowers flapped twice and, although Emblen followed up, the ball had already crossed the line and Warhurst was given his just reward.

As the rain beat down, Blackburn were looking desperate until the 76th minute, when Kenna crossed with precision, Gallacher had a shot blocked and Sutton pounced for his thirteenth goal of the season.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — J Kenna, S Henchoz, C Hendry (sub: T Pedersen, 45min), G Croft (sub: J Wilcox, 66) — D Duff, T Sherwood, G Flitcroft, S Ripley — C Sutton, K Gallacher.
CRYSTAL PALACE (5-3-2): K Miller — J Smith, A Linighan, A Roberts, H Hreidarsson, D Gordon — N Emblen, S Rodger, R Gray — B Dyer (sub: L McKenzie, 57), P Warhurst.
Referee: P Jones.

☐ Blackburn have announced a profit of more than £8 million — despite a wage bill more than double that amount — thanks to the then world record £15 million sale of Alan Shearer to Newcastle United.

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Title contest takes new turn as late goals consign United to surprising defeat

Coventry complete mission impossible

COVENTRY CITY 3
MANCHESTER UNITED 2

By Russell Kempson



IAN HODGSON

Dublin, the striker whose equalising goal from the penalty spot inspired a dramatic finale, celebrates Coventry's victory over the Premiership leaders yesterday

HISTORY dictated that Manchester United could not be beaten by Coventry City at Highfield Road yesterday. In 17 matches between the sides spanning nine seasons, Coventry had not won once. United had won six successive games in the FA Carling Premiership and Coventry had lost six out of seven. Bring on the slaughter.

It did not materialise. Football once again displayed its glorious unpredictability as United were beaten by two goals in the last four minutes. From a position of strength, 2-1 ahead and apparently cruising into the new year, they were left shaking their heads in disbelief at the turnaround.

The manner of Alex Ferguson, the United manager, suggested that it was no more than a blip. "It was a silly result, but we probably got what we deserved," he said. "We should have gone on to win after scoring the second goal, but we invited them to come on to us. We didn't defend early enough.

"I don't think the players thought it was going to be easy. Maybe we were careless more than anything, that's all. Coventry have to be given credit, they persevered, but it's nothing to worry about. The championship is not won now, it's won in March or April."

There are times when self-belief spills over into arrogance, when simply wearing the red shirt is apparently enough to intimidate opponents into meek submission. United began in such vein, caressing the ball around as if Coventry did not exist.

Beckham lorded it over the midfield, continually constructing from deep. Sheringham dropped back to gather possession and Cole tried to lose Shaw, his shadow. Few teams showboat at the start yet United did, their confidence bordering on contempt.

Coventry, though, were not intimidated. Boateng, their recent Ghana-born acquisition from Feyenoord, responded with a delightful mixture of force and finesse.

Huckerby ran at the strangely hesitant United defenders and helped to dent United's mask of invincibility in only the twelfth minute. His persistence, by chasing the ball to the byline and keeping it in play, allowed Hall to follow up and cross it into the middle, where Dublin nudged it on to the unmarked Whelan. Pilkington had no chance as the shot was carefully placed past him into the bottom left-hand corner of his net.

It was Whelan's first goal since April, on his fifth appearance since returning from a career-threatening confrontation with a pane of glass. He severed ankle ligaments in the incident — another millimetre or two and his days as a professional could have been over — but he has since promised to mend his ways.

United were jolted, the inconceivable had happened. It could have been worse soon after, when Huckerby selfishly ignored his better-placed team-mates — Hall, Whelan, Dublin and Boateng — after he had dispossessed Pilkington. Instead of passing, he shot wastefully into the side-netting.

It was too much for Ferguson, who left the comfort of the directors' box and strode purposefully to the United bench. His players, as if sensing a presence on the touchline, stepped up a gear; the pouting and posing was over and, on the half-hour, they equalised.

A Coventry attack broke down in its infancy and Giggs strode through the middle before releasing Solskjaer on the left. He had much to do but cut in, bamboozled Nilsson with the cutest of shimmies and guided his shot past Hedman.

Huckerby again erred, blazing wide with only Pilkington to beat, but Coventry could reflect positively on an encouraging first-half performance. United had at least been tested: the goal avalanche had not materialised. Three minutes into the second half, normal service was resumed.

Hall and Whelan got in a tangle while on defensive duty, allowing the pugnacious efforts of Beckham to be rewarded. Scholes picked up the pieces, crossed low to the far post and Sheringham stooped almost to ground level to nod in his tenth goal of the season.

That appeared to be about it: United had done enough; From then on, they slowly strangled the life out of the contest, absorbing Coventry's best efforts with ease. Another United victory, more points clear at the top of the Premiership ... and then the plot was turned crazily on its head in the closing four minutes.

First, Huckerby veered into the United penalty area and was going nowhere until he tumbled dramatically under the challenge of Berg. Neale Barry, the referee, shrugged off the inevitable protests and Dublin converted the penalty with aplomb, sending Pilkington the wrong way.

A minute later, Huckerby set off on a weaving run that took him past tackle after tackle — too many to count in the bedlam breaking out all around — and still somehow kept his balance when, unbelievably, he found only the goalkeeper left in his path. "He probably beat half our team," Ferguson said. Huckerby's finish was also exemplary, a low shot slithering past Pilkington.

Perhaps United paid for their arrogant opening, perhaps they paid too little respect to one of the league's perennial strugglers. Perhaps it is a timely reminder that, as the new year dawns, the right to retain their Premiership crown still has to be earned.

COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): M Hedman — R Nilsson, R Shaw, P Williams, D Burrows — P Telfer, G Boateng (sub: W Boland, 65min), N Whelan, M Hall (sub: T E Soltvedt, 78) — D Dublin, D Huckerby.
MANCHESTER UNITED (4-3-3): K Pilkington — G Neville, H Berg, G Pallister, R Johnsen (sub: J Curtis, 64) — D Beckham, P Scholes, R Giggs — E Sheringham, A Cole, O G Solskjaer (sub: N Butt, 72).
Referee: N Barry.

Milosevic earns Villa late reward

LEEDS UNITED 1
ASTON VILLA 1

By Simon Wilde

NOT for the first time this season, an FA Carling Premiership match involving Leeds United packed many of its thrills and spills into the last half-hour. Unhappily for Leeds, though, this one — unlike the games during their improbable winning streak last month — did not end to their satisfaction. A draw — which was far less than George Graham's side deserved — left them with only six points from a possible 15 this month.

When Jimmy Hasselbaink gave Leeds a belated and justified lead in the 79th minute, driving a header just inside Villa's left-hand post from Lee Bowyer's finely-weighted chip from the right, they appeared to have the game in the bag. Villa had become so bogged down in



Hasselbaink: put Leeds ahead

entrenchment that it seemed implausible they could switch quickly to attack.

But if any Villa player had the wherewithal to do so, it was Steve Staunton, their captain, whose celebrated left foot had already given Martyn one uncomfortable moment in the Leeds goal with one of his scything, swinging drives. Now, with five minutes remaining on the clock, he fired in a pin-point cross to Savo Milosevic, roaming loose at the back of the Leeds defence, and the Serb had no trouble nodding the ball into the gaping net.

For much of the afternoon, the match had stuttered along, with Leeds showing occasional but self-conscious glimpses of class. Whatever happened, a lot of interest had been taken out of the occasion by the absence of Stan Collymore, who became the latest Villa victim of influenza. Gareth Southgate had already been laid low and was also missing, while Brian Little, the manager, spent Christmas Day in bed and could still barely talk, let alone shout across the pitch.

As for Leeds, this was one of their better, more positive days. From the start, they looked the more confident and capable side, swinging the ball across the field fluently and getting around the back of the Villa defence, but had difficulty translating their industry into goals.

In only the second minute, Leeds broke dangerously down the left flank and when the ball fell to Ribeiro, Nelson brought him down so abruptly that he had to be carried off with a badly injured knee. But Leeds were not impoverished by the incident, Lilley, the replacement, playing his part in several imaginative moves. He posed sufficient threat for Draper to earn a yellow card after wrestling with him shortly before the interval.

Yet Villa were never without hope, so generous were Leeds in occasionally giving them space in front of their own area. Byfield, drafted in as Collymore's deputy, was involved in a neat move that ended with his own point-blank header that Martyn did well to save and Milosevic might have scored with a header as early as the 33rd minute had not Hasselbaink been back to clear off the Leeds' goalline.

Such incidents heartened Villa, who came out after the interval with renewed vigour and promptly enjoyed their best ten minutes of the game. However, this was unwise, because their brief spirit of adventure sparked Leeds into life and, when their superior strength came into play, Villa fell firmly on to the defensive.

In quick succession, Staunton and Byfield were booked, Staunton for time-wasting at one of Villa's own free kicks. Suitably encouraged, Leeds upped the tempo and got their goal, but in the end they were left to rue their missed chances and renew their complaints — as Graham did, only too eagerly — about the standard of refereeing.

LEEDS UNITED (4-4-2): N Martyn — A Mayburry, D Wetherall, R Molenaar, D Robinson — L Radebe, L Bowyer, H Kewell, B Ribeiro (sub: D Lilley, 2min) — J F Hasselbaink, R Wallace.
ASTON VILLA (3-5-2): M Bosnich — U Ehiogu, S Staunton, R Scimeca — F Nelson, M Draper, J Taylor, S Grayson, A Wright — S Milosevic, D Byfield (sub: R Walker, 90min).
Referee: D Gallagher.

Enter Wimbledon, bearing choice of seasonal gifts

WIMBLEDON 1
WEST HAM UNITED 2

By Brian Glanville

IF EVER a team seemed hell bent on self-destruction, it was Wimbledon yesterday. They had a man sent off for the most gratuitous of fouls after barely three minutes and complemented this by giving away two ludicrous goals. Scant consolation was the goal that they managed on their own account, through Solbakken in the very last minute.

The manner of the dismissal of Ben Thatcher, an England Under-21 defender, was scarcely believable. The ball, after all, was dead when he appeared to swing an arm at Paul Kitson as they trotted back towards the middle, after the West ham forward had been given offside. Paul Durkin, the referee, showed Thatcher his red card and Wimbledon's backs were against the wall.

Joe Kinnear, their disappointed manager, said he would have to watch the video before he decided exactly what Thatcher had or had not done.

"He's saying he didn't make any contact. We couldn't get near the referee," Kinnear said. "When we asked him why, he told us all to go away. If he [Thatcher] has done it, he should know better."

Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, had no doubts at all. "You can't elbow people in the face and not get sent off."

To pile Pelion on Ossa, Wimbledon presented West Ham with an own goal after half an hour. Lampard's pass to Hartson was going astray when Kimble, running in, booted the ball into his own net.

The second West Ham goal, ten minutes into the second half, was almost equally avoidable. Kitson, always impressively mobile and intelligent, could scarcely have expected to be the recipient of Cunningham's careless header, but he snapped it up and ran across Sullivan — and the face of the goal — before pivoting to score with his right foot.

West Ham's win was their first away from home since the opening game of the season, at Barnsley, since when their form away from Upton Park had been disastrous. It was a win, too, achieved without the usually inspiring presence of the quicksilver Israel midfield player, Eyal Berkovic.

Once Thatcher had gone, West Ham ran the game for long spells. John Hartson, in vigorous form and combining profitably with Kitson, sent Lampard away only for Sullivan to rush out and block the shot. Subsequently, Sullivan saved equally competently from Lampard's header.

After half-time, Gayle went off with a pulled hamstring and Kinnear boldly brought on Clarke and Cort and deployed a three-man attack, despite being a player short. Forrest had to be alert at the near post to block Cort's snapshot.

"I still thought we should have won with ten men," Kinnear said. "Gave them two goals and limited them to two shots."

Yet there could have been a third West Ham goal — and another own goal — when Ardley miscued. Blackwell was there to clear off the line.

"They [Wimbledon] don't give up, do they?" Redknapp said. "People thought it was game over, but that's how difficult it is when teams work hard. First half, it was all one-way traffic. Second half, they got amongst us and made things difficult."

Solbakken's goal, after a centre from Ardley, gave Wimbledon some small reward for their persistence.

WIMBLEDON (4-4-2): N Sullivan — K Cunningham, D Blackwell, B Thatcher, A Kimble — N Ardley, S Solbakken, V Jones (sub: C Cort, 46min), R Earle — M Hughes, M Gayle (sub: A Clarke, 46)
WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2): C Forrest — T Breacker, R Ferdinand, I Pearce, D Unsworth — A Impey, F Lampard, S Lomas, S Lazaradis — P Kitson, J Hartson.
Referee: P Durkin.



Kinnear: video session



Rob Hughes

Schizophrenia has the same meaning in all 11 languages spoken in the Chelsea dressing-room. How else can the mood swings of a team that has scored ten goals in two away games, but only one in two home matches, be interpreted?

Notwithstanding Ruud Gullit's changes, which leave his own squad, let alone the opposition, guessing, the inference is that Chelsea flourish on "foreign" fields, where the other side is obliged to attack, but are stifled by negative teams at Stamford Bridge. However, Chelsea, with a dozen different scorers already this season, surely have the ammunition to overcome such tactics.

Tonight, though, they go to The Dell, which, until it is vacated for relocation, remains a difficult bastion to storm. Chelsea are unbeaten there for three years, but David Jones's team, having drawn two difficult away games over Christmas, are learning the art of survival.

It is no longer all or nothing on Le Tissier. On Boxing Day, another Matt, the 20-year-old Oakley, volleyed a goal in off the crossbar with all the sweetness of the man himself. Carlton Palmer and Kevin Richardson afford the team ageing but knowing experience. Paul Jones saved a penalty against Crystal Palace on Boxing Day, but conceded four at Stamford Bridge earlier in the season and is determined to rectify that.

SOUTHAMPTON
v
CHELSEA
(Today, 8.0)

SOUTHAMPTON (probable, 4-3-1-2): P Jones — J Dodd, K Monkou, C Lundekvam, F Benali — C Palmer, K Richardson, M Oakley — M Le Tissier — D Hirst, K Davies.
CHELSEA (possible, 4-4-2): E De Goey — S Clarke, M Duberry, F Leboeuf, G Le Saux — D Petrescu, D Wise, R Di Matteo, M Nicholls — G Vialli, G Zola.
Referee: M Bodenham.

■ TELEVISION: Live on Sky from 7pm.

■ PREDICTION: A draw — schizophrenics might say it could go either way ...

Ferguson hat-trick buoys up Everton

EVERTON 3
BOLTON WANDERERS 2

By David Powell

DUNCAN Ferguson celebrated the weekend of his 26th birthday, his return from suspension and his first match as captain of Everton with his first hat-trick for the club yesterday. But for his goals, his first for seven weeks and all headers, Everton would now be bottom of the FA Carling Premiership.

The fixture paired two teams who, together with Coventry City, had the worst scoring record in the division. Forgetting their recent past, though, they served up an attacking game. Everton went two up, Bolton equalised by scoring twice in a minute shortly before half-time, but, midway through the second period, Ferguson secured the points that lifted his team above Tottenham Hotspur into eighteenth place.

Everton were not so much a box of Toffeemen as jelly babies — four teenagers in the starting line-up and a 16-year-old, Jeffers, on the bench. Howard Kendall's injury list is into double figures and Dunne, 18, came in to join Cadamarteri, 18, Ball, 18, and Oster, 19. Between them, they had made only 40 starts for Everton.

Away to Manchester United on Boxing Day, Everton had played with a three-man defence that included Short and Watson. However, both were added to the casualty list, leaving only Tiler of the three available yesterday. Tiler was joined in a back four by Thomas and Dunne, who were called into the team, and Hinchcliffe, withdrawn from midfield.

Dunne's inexperience was exposed by Blake in the first half. He was caught in possession twice by Bolton's leading scorer, leaving him with a clear run to goal.

When Everton went ahead, after 17 minutes, it was no more than they deserved. Ferguson began the move, finding Thomas wide on the right. As Thomas moved forward, so did Ferguson and, when the cross came in, he met it with height and power.

Ferguson thus scored Everton's first goal in open play for 682 minutes, their only two in that time coming from penalties. He returned from a three-match suspension to be told by Howard Kendall, the Everton manager, that, with Speed injured, he was wanted as captain.

More a case of needs must than a compelling case for Ferguson's promotion. "I had only three players — Ferguson, Barmby and Hinchcliffe — who had played more than a dozen league games," Kendall said. Ferguson proved the right choice. "I told him he would not have to do anything different but set an example," Kendall said. "Fortunately, he has."

Barmby supplied the left wing cross for Ferguson to head in his second unmarked in the 41st minute. Two minutes later, Bergsson, with a header, then Sellars, with a drive, scored within 60 seconds of each other.

Everton dictated the pace early in the second half, but much of their possession was wasted by Hinchcliffe. However, Thomas delivered a 67th-minute cross that Ferguson met close in.



Ferguson: treble

Ferguson might have had two more goals. If only the chances had fallen to his head rather than his feet.

Kendall rejected a suggestion that the captaincy was what Ferguson had needed to stir him. Kendall said: "The frustration of missing games would have fired him up."

Colin Todd, the Bolton manager, was disheartened by the result but not the performance. "I have got a bunch of players who give everything and you saw that today," Todd said. "I am still optimistic, and I still believe we will get out of trouble."

EVERTON (4-4-2): T Myhre — A Thomas, R Dunne, C Tiler, A Hinchcliffe — D Cadamarteri, G Ferrady, M Ball, J Oster (sub: C Thomson, 77min) — N Barmby, D Ferguson.
BOLTON WANDERERS (3-5-2): G Ward — C Fairclough, M Fish (sub: M Johansen, 85), G Bergsson — N Cox, J Pollock, P Frandsen, S Sellars, M Whitlow — N Blake, P Beardsley (sub: A Gunnlaugsson, 35; sub: F Cerr, 58).
Referee: K Burge

هكذا من الإصل

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

BARNSLEY (0) 1 **DERBY** (0) 0
Ward 67
18,686

Barnsley: D Watson, N Eaden, D Sheridan, A Moses, A De Zeeuw, N Redfearn, C Marcelle (sub: M Bullock, 73min), E Tinkler, G Hristov (sub: A Liddell, 61min), D Barnard, A Ward

Booked: Moses

Derby County: M Poom, G Rowett, C Powell (sub: F Baiano, 76min), D Powell, D Yates, D Sturridge, P Wanchope, R Willems, J Laursen (sub: M Carbon, 67min), L Carsley, S Eranio

Booked: Sturridge, Yates, Carsley, Baiano

Referee: G P Barber

BLACKBURN (1) 2 **C PALACE** (1) 2
Gallacher 27 · Dyer 12
Sutton 78 · Warhurst 48
23,872

Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers, J Kenna, T Sherwood, C Hendry (sub: P Pedersen, 46min), S Ripley, K Gallacher, K Sutton, G Flitcroft, G Croft (sub: J Wilcox, 67min), S Henchoz, D Duff

Crystal Palace: K Miller, D Gordon, A Roberts, A Linighan, P Warhurst, B Dyer (sub: L McKenzie, 58min), S Rodger, J Smith, H Hreidarsson, N Emblen, R Ginty

Booked: Linighan

Referee: P Jones

COVENTRY (1) 3 **MAN UTD** (1) 2
Whelan 12 · Solskjaer 30
Dublin 86 (pen) · Sheringham 47
Huckerby 88 · 23,054

Coventry City: M Hedman, R Shaw, D Burrows, P Williams, D Huckerby, N Whelan, D Dublin, P Telfer, G Boateng (sub: W Boland, 64min), M Hall (sub: T Soltvedt, 77min), R Nilsson

Booked: Boland

Manchester United: K Pilkington, G Neville, R Johnsen (sub: J Curtis, 63min), G Pallister, D Beckham, A Cole, E Sheringham, R Giggs, P Scholes, O G Solskjaer (sub: N Butt, 71min), H Berg

Booked: Beckham

Referee: N S Barry

EVERTON (2) 3 **BOLTON** (2) 2
Ferguson 17, 41, 67 · Bergsson 42
37,149 · Sellars 43

Everton: T Myhre, A Thomas, R Dunne, C Tiler, A Hinchcliffe, G Farrelly, J Oster (sub: C Thomsen, 77min), M Ball, N Barmby, D Cadamarteri, D Ferguson

Booked: Tiler

Bolton Wanderers: G Ward, N Cox, P Frandsen, G Fairclough, J Pollock, S Sellars, N Blake, G Bergsson, P Beardsley (sub: A Gudmundsson, 35min) (sub: F Carr, 65min), M Fish (sub: M Johansen, 79min), M Whitlow

Booked: Bergsson

Referee: K W Burge

LEEDS (0) 1 **A VILLA** (0) 1
Hasselbaink 79 · Milosevic 85
36,287

Leeds United: N Martyn, D Robertson, L Radebe, D Wetherall, R Wallace, J F Hasselbaink, B Ribeiro (sub: D Lilley, 5min), L Bowyer, H Kewell, A Maybury, R Molenaar

Aston Villa: M Bosnich, S Staunton, U Ehiogu, I Taylor, M Draper, S Milosevic, A Wright, F Nelson, S Grayson, R Scimeca, D Byfield (sub: R Walker, 90min)

Booked: Draper, Staunton, Byfield

Referee: D J Gallagher

LEICESTER (1) 1 **SHEFF WED** (0) 1
Guppy 28 · Booth 85
20,800
Sent off: D Stefanovic (Sheff Wed) 43

Leicester City: K Keller, R Savage, S Guppy, P Kaamark, M Elliott, S Walsh (sub: S Prior, 57min), M Izzet, N Lennon, G Parker, I Marshall (sub: S Claridge, 70min), E Heskey

Booked: Walsh

Sheffield Wednesday: K Pressman, I Nolan, P Atherton, M Pembridge (sub: W Collins, 50min) (sub: R Humphreys, 84min), J Newsome, D Walker, B Carbone, A Booth, D Stefanovic, N Alexandersson, P Rudi (sub: G Hyde, 70min)

Booked: Nolan, Stefanovic, Pembridge, Carbone, Hyde

Referee: G Poll

NEWCASTLE (1) 1 **LIVERPOOL** (2) 2
Watson 16 · McManaman 31, 43
36,702

Newcastle United: S Hislop, W Barton (sub: D Hamilton, 45min), J Beresford, A Pistone, S Pearce, S Watson, D Batty, R Lee, K Gillespie, J Barnes, F Asprilla

Liverpool: D James, B T Kvarme, S Harkness, D Matteo, J McAteer, O Leonhardsen, P Ince, S McManaman, J Redknapp, R Fowler (sub: J Carragher, 78min), M Owen

Booked: Redknapp

Referee: G R Ashby

TOTTENHAM (1) 1 **ARSENAL** (0) 1
Nielsen 28 · Parlour 62
29,610

Tottenham Hotspur: I Walker, C Calderwood, R Fox (sub: J Dominguez, 60min), A Nielsen, S Carr, D Ginola (sub: S Iversen, 86min), R Vega, D Wilson, S Campbell, S Clemence, J Klinsmann

Booked: Campbell, Wilson

Arsenal: D Seaman, L Dixon (sub: G Grimandi, 27min), N Winterburn, P Vieira, S Bould, N Anelka (sub: I Rankin, 86min), D Bergkamp (sub: S Hughes, 79min), M Overmars, M Keown, R Parlour, E Petit

Booked: Bould, Keown

Referee: M A Riley

WIMBLEDON (0) 1 **WEST HAM** (1) 2
Solbakken 90 · Kimble 31 (og)
22,087 · Kitson 54
Sent off: B Thatcher (Wimbledon) 2

Wimbledon: N Sullivan, K Cunningham, A Kimble, V Jones (sub: A Clarke, 46min), D Blackwell, B Thatcher, R Earle, S Solbakken, M Gayle (sub: C Cort, 32min), M Hughes, N Ardley

West Ham United: C Forrest, T Breacker, D Unsworth, P Kitson, J Hartson, S Lomas, R Ferdinand, S Lazaridis, F Lampard, I Pearce, A Impey

Referee: P A Durkin

GOALSCORERS



Sutton: scored for Blackburn against Crystal Palace

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	Lge	Cup	Euro	Total
A Cole (Man Utd)	12	0	5	17
J Hartson (West Ham)	11	6	0	17
C Sutton (Blackburn)	12	1	0	13
D Bergkamp (Arsenal)	10	1	1	12
G Vialli (Chelsea)	6	0	6	12
F Baiano (Derby)	11	0	0	11
K Gallacher (Blackburn)	10	1	0	11
R Fowler (Liverpool)	9	1	1	11
I Wright (Arsenal)	10	0	0	10
E Sheringham (Man Utd)	8	2	0	10
R Wallace (Leeds)	8	2	0	10
K Davies (Southampton)	7	3	0	10
M Owen (Liverpool)	6	3	1	10
P Wanchope (Derby)	6	4	0	10
D Dublin (Coventry)	8	1	0	9

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE

	Lge	Cup	Euro	Total
M Negri (Rangers)	30	0	3	33
H Larsson (Celtic)	12	3	0	15
R Winters (Dundee Utd)	6	2	6	14
G McSwegan (Dundee Utd)	3	5	6	14
K Olofsson (Dundee Utd)	12	0	1	13
A Smith (Dunfermline)	8	5	0	13
O Coyle (Motherwell)	6	4	0	10
S Donnelly (Celtic)	4	3	3	10
T Coyne (Motherwell)	9	0	0	9
C Burley (Celtic)	5	2	2	9
P Wright (Kilmarnock)	5	1	3	9
D Dodds (Aberdeen)	6	2	0	8
A McCoist (Rangers)	1	4	3	8
J Hamilton (Hearts)	7	0	0	7
S Adam (Hearts)	6	1	0	7

CARLING F.A. PREMIERSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Man Utd	21	9	1	0	30	4	5	3	3	19	12	46	+33
2 Blackburn	21	7	3	1	25	12	4	5	1	13	9	41	+17
3 Chelsea	20	6	2	1	17	7	6	1	4	29	13	39	+26
4 Liverpool	20	7	0	3	23	10	4	4	2	13	9	37	+17
5 Leeds	21	5	3	3	16	12	5	2	3	14	11	35	+7
6 Arsenal	20	6	2	2	21	8	3	5	2	14	15	34	+12
7 Derby	21	7	3	0	20	5	2	2	7	14	23	32	+6
8 West Ham	21	8	0	1	18	6	2	1	9	10	26	31	-4
9 Leicester	21	3	6	3	13	11	4	1	4	12	10	28	+4
10 A Villa	21	5	2	3	16	14	2	3	6	9	13	26	-2
11 Newcastle	20	5	3	4	13	13	2	2	4	8	12	26	-4
12 Wimbledon	20	3	2	6	12	16	3	4	2	9	8	24	-3
13 C Palace	21	0	4	5	6	15	5	4	3	14	13	23	-8
14 Coventry	21	4	6	1	17	12	1	2	7	3	16	23	-8
15 Sheff Wed	21	5	2	4	18	17	1	3	6	14	27	23	-12
16 Southmptn	20	5	1	4	17	14	1	2	7	7	16	21	-6
17 Bolton	21	3	6	1	9	7	1	3	7	10	26	21	-14
18 Everton	21	4	2	4	14	15	1	3	7	6	16	20	-11
19 Tottenham	21	4	3	4	12	15	1	2	7	7	22	20	-18
20 Barnsley	21	3	2	5	11	20	2	1	8	8	31	18	-32

Nationwide FOOTBALL LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION

BIRMINGHAM (0) 0 **TRANMERE** (0) 0
19,533

BRADFORD (1) 1 **HUDDERSFIELD** (1) 1
Blake 10 · Dalton 34
17,842

BURY (0) 1 **CREWE** (0) 1
Patterson 62 · Adebola 81
5,661

MAN CITY (0) 2 **NOTTM F** (1) 3
Shelia 56 · Van Hooijdonk 31 (pen)
Dickov 77 · 53 (pen)
31,839 · Campbell 50

MIDDLESBRO (1) 3 **STOCKPORT** (1) 1
Hignett 10 · Flynn 30
Beck 66, 89 · 30,166

OXFORD UTD (1) 1 **SUNDERLAND** (1) 1
Jemson 27 (pen) · Phillips 14
8,659

PORT VALE (0) 0 **WOLVRHMPTN** (1) 2
10,898 · Muscat 45
Freedman 87

QPR (1) 1 **READING** (0) 1
Spencer 15 · Morley 64
13,015
Sent off: D Maddix (QPR) 78
C Asaba (Reading) 78

SHEFF UTD (2) 4 **CHARLTON** (0) 1
Taylor 8 · Bright 89
Saunders 32 · 18,677
Deane 57
Marker 64

SWINDON (0) 0 **IPSWICH** (0) 2
10,609 · Johnson 49 (pen)
Petta 79

WEST BROM (0) 1 **STOKE** (0) 1
Hunt 62 · Thorne 47
17,690

SECOND DIVISION

BLACKPOOL (1) 1 **WREXHAM** (0) 2
Ormerod 17 · Owen 85
5,424 · Wainwright 88

BRISTOL R (4) 5 **BOURNEMTH** (1) 3
Beadle 15, 26, 44 · Jones 9
Hayles 28, 76 · Cox 75
7,256 · Robinson 84 (pen)

CHESTRFLD (0) 1 **YORK** (0) 1
Reeves 57 · Greening 90
5,320

FULHAM (0) 1 **BRISTOL CITY** (0) 0
Moody 55 · 13,273

GRIMSBY (3) 3 **PRESTON** (0) 1
Donovan 11, 36 · Gregan 88
Black 20 · 6,725

MILLWALL (0) 0 **LUTON** (0) 2
7,461 · Davis 89
Thorpe 90

NORTHMPTN (1) 3 **WALSALL** (1) 2
Seal 31 · Porter 40
Freestone 48 · Hodge 61
Dozzell 54 · 7,094

SOUTHEND (0) 1 **WYCOMBE** (1) 2
Thomson 47 · Scott 6, 84
5,162

WATFORD (0) 1 **PLYMOUTH** (0) 1
Mooney 90 · Saunders 86
11,594

WIGAN (0) 0 **CARLISLE** (1) 2
4,511 · Stevens 4
McAlindon 88

POSTPONED: Oldham v Burnley

POOLS PANEL VERDICT: Half-time: Home win; Full-time: Home win

THIRD DIVISION

CHESTER (0) 1 **SCUNTHRPE** (0) 0
Priest 63 · 2,263
Sent off: R Wilcox (Scunthrpe) 27

EXETER (1) 1 **TORQUAY** (1) 1
Rowbotham 12 (pen) · Leadbitter 6
3,350

L ORIENT (4) 8 **DONCASTER** (0) 0
Griffiths 20, 48, 55 · 4,437
Inglethorpe 42
Smith 43 (pen)
Richards 45, 59
Baker 64

MACCLSFLD (0) 1 **ROCHDALE** (0) 0
Howarth 52 (pen) · 2,666

MANSFIELD (1) 2 **LINCOLN** (0) 2
Whitehall 43, 58 · Alcide 55
3,443 · Smith 83

NOTTS CO (1) 2 **HARTLPOOL** (0) 0
Farrell 13, 87 · 6,073

PETERBORO (0) 1 **BRIGHTON** (1) 2
Quinn 85 · Minton 21
8,221 · Reinelt 54
Sent off: A Vickers (Peterboro) 81

ROTHERHAM (2) 5 **HULL** (1) 4
Glover 21, 50, 54, 62 · Darby 32, 72
Taylor 25 · Hodges 66, 70
5,995

SHRWSBURY (1) 3 **CARDIFF** (0) 2
Brown 27 · Fowler 63
Whide 53 · Young 78
Preece 86 · 3,238

SWANSEA (0) 0 **BARNET** (1) 2
3,997 · McGleish 32
Simpson 90

POSTPONED: Scarborough v Darlington

POOLS PANEL VERDICT: Half-time: Home win; Full-time: Home win

GOALSCORERS

NATIONWIDE FIRST DIVISION: 20: P Van Hooijdonk (Nottm Forest). 15: B Angell (Stockport); D Johnson (Ipswich, 8 for Bury). 14: M Beck (Middlesbrough); C Hay (Swindon, 1 for Celtic); C Mendonca (Charlton). 13: K Campbell (Nottm Forest); B Deane (Sheff Utd); P Thorne (Stoke). 12: A Hunt (West Brom); A Armstrong (Stockport). 11: P Dalton (Huddersfield); K Phillips (Sunderland); J Beauchamp (Oxford Utd). 10: J A Fjortoft (Sheff Utd).

SECOND DIVISION: 17: R Boli (Walsall). 15: B Hayles (Bristol Rovers). 14: S Goater (Bristol City); R Taylor (Brentford). 13: M Stallard (Wycombe); A Thorpe (Luton); R Rowe (York). 12: A Akinbiyi (Gillingham); S Barlow (Oldham); P Peschisolido (Fulham, 6 for West Brom). 11: P Beadle (Bristol Rovers). D Seal (Northampton). 10: D Lowe (Wigan), L Ashcroft (Preston); P Kennedy (Watford)

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE

PREMIER DIVISION

ABERDEEN (0) 3 **MOTHERWELL** (0) 0
Windass 63 · 13,038
Jess 83, 86 (pen)

Aberdeen: J Leighton, P Bernard, D Whyte, B O'Neil, J Inglis, G Smith, I Kiriakov, E Jess, D Windass (sub: R Gillies, 83min), D Dodds (sub: M Newell, 85min), S Glass (sub: J Miller, 76min).

Motherwell: S Woods, E May, S McMillan, R Newman, B Martin, J Philliben, J Hendry (sub: M Weir, 77min), E Shivute, T Coyne, S McSkimming (sub: W Davies, 77min), O Coyle.

Booked: Newman, Martin.

Referee: B Tait.

DUNFERMLINE (1) 1 **HEARTS** (3) 3
Bingham 16 (pen) · Hamilton 7
11,689 · Westwater 28 (og)
Salvatori 33
Sent off: A Smith (Dunfrmline) 52

Dunfermline: I Westwater, G Shields, I Den Bieman, A Tod, D Barnett, H Curran (sub: S Duarte, 75min), G Shaw (sub: A Moore, 72min), C Robertson, A Smith, H French, D Bingham.

Booked: Smith, Bingham.

Hearts: G Rousset, G Locke, N Pointon, D Weir, S Salvatori, P Ritchie, J Quitongo (sub: S Frail, 59min), S Fulton, S Adam, I Cameron (sub: T Flogel, 84min), J Hamilton.

Booked: Locke, Pointon.

Referee: H Dallas.

HIBERNIAN (0) 0 **KILMARNOCK** (1) 1
10,543 · Wright 43

Hibernian: C Reid, W Miller, J Boco, A Dods, J Hughes (sub: A Rougier, 60min), J Chamley (sub: K Miller, 75min), A Dow, K Harper, S Crawford, A Walker, P McGinlay.

Kilmarnock: D Lekovic, A MacPherson, D Kerr, J Lauchlan, R Montgomerie, M Reilly, A Burke (sub: M Baker, 89min), G Holt, P Wright (sub: J Henry, 88min), J Vareille (sub: M Roberts, 75min), A Mitchell.

Booked: Kerr, Montgomerie, Mitchell, Reilly.

Referee: E Martindale.

RANGERS (2) 4 **DUNDEE UTD** (1) 1
Laudrup 43 · Olofsson 28
Cleland 44 · 50,017
Negri 82, 90 (pen)

Rangers: P Snelders, A Cleland, S Stensaas (sub: A Vidmar, 45min), S McCall, S Porrini, J Bjorklund, B Ferguson, I Ferguson (sub: A McCoist, 84min), M Negri, J Albertz, B Laudrup (sub: I Durrant, 76min).

Booked: Porrini, Bjorklund, I Ferguson.

Dundee United: S Dykstra, S Jonsson, M Malpas, S Pressley, M Perry, E Pedersen (sub: R McKinnon, 84min), K Olofsson, L Zetterlund, G McSwegan, C Easton (sub: M Skoldmark, 63min), A McLaren (sub: R Winters, 68min).

Booked: Jonsson, Dykstra, Malpas, McLaren, Pedersen.

Referee: S Dougal

ST JOHNSTONE (0) 1 **CELTIC** (0) 0
O'Boyle 72 · 10,455

St Johnstone: A Main, S McCluskey, C Davidson, N Dasovic, J Weir, A Kernaghan, P Scott, J O'Neil, P Kane, G O'Boyle (sub: R Grant, 74min), A Preston.

Booked: Weir

Celtic: J Gould, T Boyd, D Hannah, J McNamara, E Annoni, A Stubbs (sub: A Thom, 84min), D Jackson (sub: H Brattbakk, 62min), C Burley, M Wieghorst, P Lambert, R Blinker.

Booked: McNamara, Stubbs.

Referee: S Roy.

FIRST DIVISION

AIRDRIE (2) 2 **ST MIRREN** (0) 1
Smith 3 · Turner 76
Cooper 39 · 2,312
Sent off: S Taylor (St Mirren) 72

AYR (1) 2 **G MORTON** (1) 1
Ferguson 21 · Hawke 18
Agnew 61 · 2,581

DUNDEE (0) 0 **FALKIRK** (1) 1
5,074 · Moss 39

HAMILTON (0) 0 **PARTICK** (1) 1
2,049 · Lawrence 21

STIRLING (1) 3 **RAITH** (2) 2
Bennett 44 · Wright 8, 24
Price 61 · 2,087
Paterson 84

SECOND DIVISION

CLYDEBANK (1) 2 **CLYDE** (1) 1
McDonald 28 · Gibson 24
McWilliams 75 · 710

FORFAR (1) 5 **BRECHIN** (0) 0
Mann 37, 60 (pen) · 810
McLauchlan 64
Farnington 72
Nairn 75

INVERNESS CT (2) 4 **EAST FIFE** (0) 0
Cherry 22 · 2,134
Robson 42
Teasdale 67
Wilson 87
Sent off: I Ritchie (East Fife) 75

STENHOUSEMUIR (1) 1 **LIVINGSTON** (1) 2
Little 40 · Bailey 41
620 · Harvey 73
Sent off: M Christie (Stenhousemuir) 69

STRANRAER (1) 3 **QUEEN OF SOUTH** (2) 4
Black 15 · Bryce 40 (pen)
McCaffrey 53 · Eadie 45
Knox 87 · Mallan 73, 81
878

THIRD DIVISION

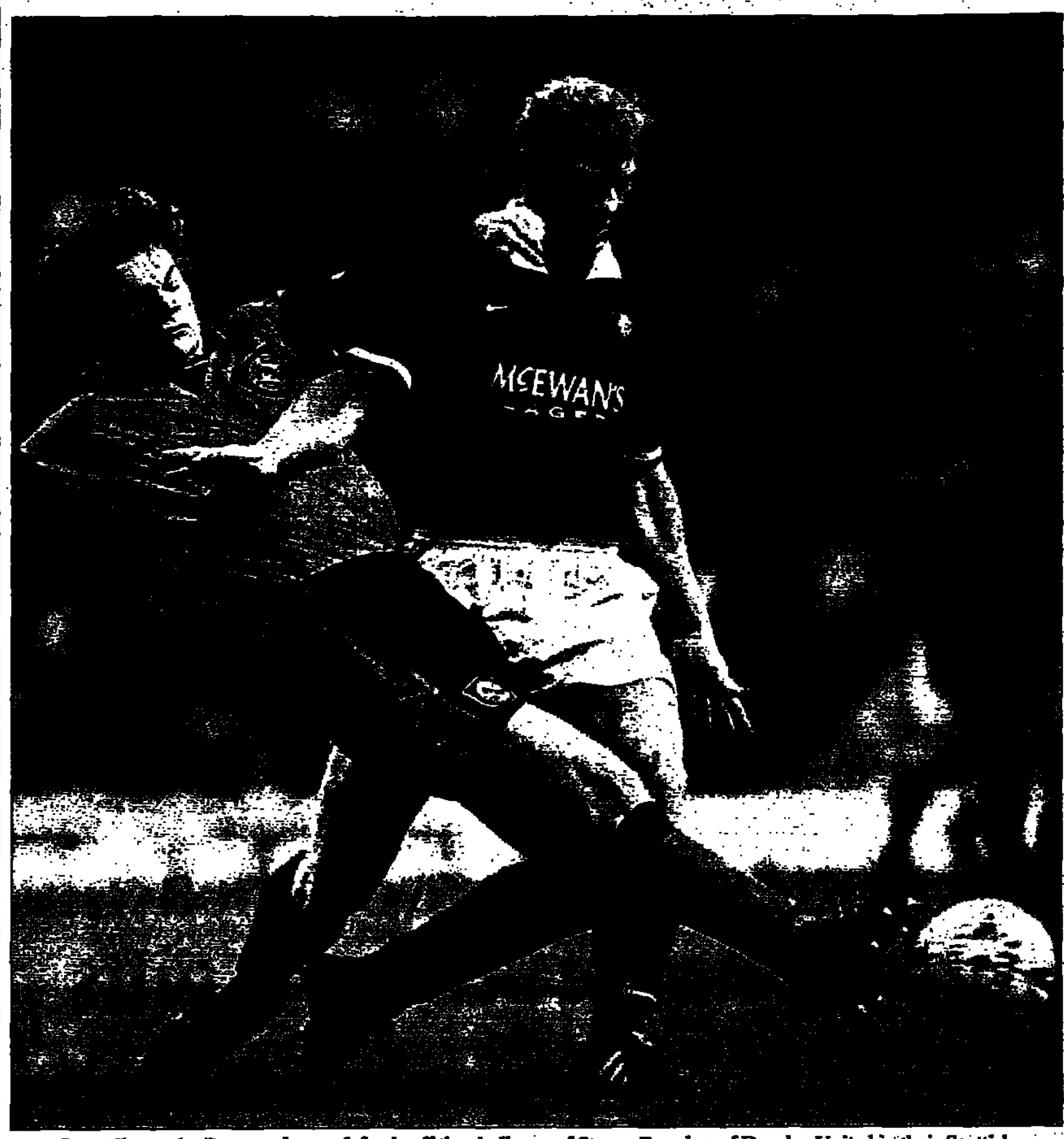
BERWICK (1) 1 **DUMBARTON** (0) 1
Walton 37 · McKinnon 60
449

COWDENBEATH (0) 0 **ROSS CO** (0) 2
238 · Wood 62
Mitchell 89 (og)

EAST STIRLING (0) 0 **ALLOA** (1) 3
572 · Simpson 42, 72
McKay 51
Sent off: A Traifst (East Stirling) 88

MONTROSE (0) 1 **ARBROATH** (0) 0
Taylor 63 · 1,496
Sent off: R Wylie (Montrose) 90

QUEEN'S PARK (0) 2 **ALBION** (2) 4
O'Brien 70 · Gardner 20, 47
Edgar 75 · Watters 30
693 · Dickson 63



Jorg Albertz, the Rangers forward, fends off the challenge of Steven Pressley, of Dundee United in their Scottish premier division match. Rangers won the match 4-1. Photograph: Jeff J Mitchell. Scottish commentary page 29

NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE TABLES

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Middlesbro	25	8	2	2	23	8	7	4	2	20	12	51	(43)
2 Nottm F	25	10	2	1	30	12	5	4	3	13	11	51	(43)
3 Sheff Utd	25	9	3	0	25	10	3	7	3	15	15	46	(40)
4 Charlton	25	9	2	1	26	13	4	3	6	20	21	44	(46)
5 Sunderland	24	6	4	2	19	8	6	3	3	19	14	43	(38)
6 Wolvrhmptn	25	8	4	0	22	11	4	2	7	10	15	42	(32)
7 West Brom	25	8	2	3	14	9	4	3	5	13	15	41	(27)
8 Stockport	25	8	4	0	27	11	3	1	9	16	24	38	(43)
9 Swindon	25	8	3	2	23	12	3	2	7	9	24	38	(32)
10 Birmingham	25	5	4	3	12	7	4	5	4	13	12	36	(25)
11 Bradford	25	6	5	2	14	12	2	5	5	9	13	34	(23)
12 QPR	25	6	5	2	16	11	2	2	8	14	29	31	(30)
13 Ipswich	24	4	3	4	13	12	3	6	4	16	14	30	(29)
14 Norwich	24	4	4	4	11	17	4	2	6	13	17	30	(24)
15 Stoke	25	4	3	4	15	14	3	5	6	12	19	29	(27)
16 Reading	25	5	3	5	18	19	2	5	5	6	18	29	(24)
17 Oxford Utd	25	5	4	3	16	12	2	2	9	14	23	27	(30)
18 Port Vale	25	4	4	5	14	13	3	1	8	12	22	26	(26)
19 Crewe	25	3	2	8	13	23	4	2	6	15	17	25	(28)
20 Man City	25	4	3	6	18	14	2	3	7	10	17	24	(28)
21 Tranmere	24	5	3	4	18	14	1	3	8	10	20	24	(28)
22 Huddersfld	25	3	3	6	11	16	3	3	7	14	23	24	(25)
23 Bury	25	3	7	3	12	13	1	5	6	11	20	24	(23)
24 Portsmth	23	5	2	6	20	22	1	3	6	9	15	23	(29)

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Watford	25	8	3	1	21	10	8	4	1	18	8	55	(39)
2 Bristol City	25	11	1	1	27	9	5	3	4	17	11	52	(44)
3 Northmptn	25	8	3	2	19	10	2	6	4	11	11	39	(30)
4 Grimsby	24	6	4	2	17	7	4	4	4	14	12	38	(31)
5 Bristol R	25	5	1	6	19	22	5	6	2	18	16	37	(37)
6 Fulham	25	7	5	1	16	7	3	2	7	14	19	37	(30)
7 Oldham	24	8	4	0	26	12	1	5	6	12	18	36	(38)
8 York	25	8	1	3	18	10	1	8	4	14	19	36	(32)
9 Chestrfld	25	6	5	1	15	9	2	7	4	8	10	36	(23)
10 Millwall	24	5	4	4	17	15	5	1	5	12	15	35	(29)
11 Wrexham	24	5	6	1	18	12	3	4	5	13	15	34	(31)
12 Blackpool	25	7	4	2	21	15	2	2	8	13	24	33	(34)
13 Bournemth	25	6	5	2	16	8	2	4	6	15	21	33	(31)
14 Preston	25	6	2	4	14	9	3	3	7	17	18	32	(31)
15 Wycombe	25	5	6	1	17	11	2	3	8	15	25	30	(32)
16 Walsall	24	6	4	2	16	8	2	2	8	10	21	30	(26)
17 Wigan	24	6	3	3	25	18	2	2	8	11	19	29	(36)
18 Gillingham	24	5	3	3	14	13	2	4	7	13	23	28	(27)
19 Southend	25	5	5	3	17	17	2	1	9	12	29	27	(29)
20 Luton	24	3	3	7	18	27	3	5	3	9	10	26	(27)
21 Plymouth	25	4	4	4	20	18	1	6	6	10	18	25	(30)
22 Carlisle	25	3	3	6	10	18	3	2	8	19	25	23	(29)
23 Brentford	24	5	4	3	19	14	0	4	8	8	26	23	(25)
24 Burnley	24	3	7	2	13	12	1	2	9	10	22	21	(23)

THIRD DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Notts Co	25	6	4	2	20	13	8	4	1	20	11	50	(40)
2 Peterboro	25	8	3	2	27	11	3	7	2	18	13	43	(45)
3 Lincoln	25	5	5	2	14	11	6	4	3	13	14	42	(27)
4 Rotherham	25	6	3	3	25	21	5	5	3	18	15	41	(43)
5 Barnet	25	7	3	3	22	12	5	2	5	16	18	41	(38)
6 Exeter	25	5	6	2	18	12	5	4	3	18	15	40	(36)
7 Chester	25	9	4	0	22	5	3	0	9	14	26	40	(36)
8 Torquay	25	7	2	3	20	13	3	6	4	15	20	38	(35)
9 Hartlpool	25	7	6	0	24	11	1	7	4	12	17	37	(36)
10 Scarboro	24	8	1	3	22	13	3	3	6	14	21	37	(36)
11 L Orient	25	7	3	3	22	10	3	4	5	11	12	37	(33)
12 Macclsfld	24	9	3	0	21	6	0	6	6	12	21	36	(33)
13 Scunthrpe	24	4	4	4	14	15	5	2	5	16	16	33	(30)
14 Colchester	23	6	3	2	18	11	2	4	6	18	24	31	(36)
15 Cambs Utd	24	6	4	2	21	15	1	6	5	11	15	31	(32)
16 Shrwsbury	24	7	0	5	20	17	1	6	5	16	20	30	(36)
17 Rochdale	25	8	1	3	22	7	1	1	11	8	24	29	(30)
18 Cardiff	24	2	9	2	12	13	3	5	3	11	11	29	(23)
19 Mansfield	24	4	6	2	22	17	2	3	7	9	14	27	(31)
20 Darlington	23	6	5	1	22	13	0	3	8	7	21	26	(29)
21 Hull	25	5	3	4	24	21	1	1	11	13	28	22	(37)
22 Swansea	25	3	4	5	9	11	3	0	10	14	29	22	(23)
23 Brighton	25	1	5	7	11	20	3	4	5	11	15	21	(22)
24 Doncaster	24	1	3	7	7	26	0	3	10	9	39	9	(16)

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE TABLES

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Rangers	19	8	2	0	33	11	4	4	1	18	10	42	+30
2 Hearts	19	7	0	2	23	14	6	1	3	19	10	40	+18
3 Celtic	19	6	1	2	28	5	6	1	3	14	8	38	+21
4 Kilmarnock	19	4	1	4	8	13	3	3	4	10	20	25	-15
5 Dundee Utd	19	4	3	2	16	7	2	3	5	14	23	24	0
6 St Johnstn	19	4	2	4	10	13	2	3	4	10	13	23	-6
7 Dunfrmline	19	2	5	3	12	16	3	1	5	10	21	21	-15
8 Motherwll	19	2	2	5	9	13	3	2	5	14	19	19	-9
9 Aberdeen	19	2	4	4	11	14	1	3	5	9	20	16	-14
10 Hibernian	19	3	3	4	19	16	0	2	7	4	17	14	-10

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Dundee	19	4	3	3	11	6	7	2	0	17	3	38	+19
2 Falkirk	19	5	1	3	13	12	5	2	3	15	16	33	0
3 Raith	19	5	2	2	12	5	4	2	4	15	14	31	+8
4 Hamilton	18	4	2	3	10	11	4	2	3	16	12	28	+3
5 Airdrie	18	4	5	1	13	10	2	3	3	7	12	26	-2
6 Ayr	19	4	1	5	17	14	2	3	4	7	13	22	-3
7 St Mirren	19	4	2	3	12	12	2	2	6	10	16	22	-6
8 Partick	19	2	2	6	16	20	2	5	3	10	12	19	-6
9 Stirling	19	2	5	3	13	15	2	2	5	12	16	19	-6
10 G Morton	19	2	2	5	10	16	3	2	5	12	13	19	-7

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Clydebank	18	4	5	1	16	8	5	3	0	12	6	35	+14
2 Livingston	18	6	1	1	16	9	3	5	2	13	11	33	+9
3 Queen Of S	18	5	2	1	13	9	3	1	6	17	21	27	0
4 Forfar	18	3	3	4	20	20	3	3	2	15	13	24	+2
5 Clyde	18	4	2	2	12	7	2	4	4	13	16	24	+2
6 Stranraer	18	5	3	2	21	13	0	4	4	8	15	22	+1
7 East Fife	18	3	1	4	16	19	3	2	5	8	15	21	-10
8 Stenhsmuir	18	4	3	3	16	15	1	2	5	8	15	20	-6
9 Inverness CT	18	3	5	2	16	10	1	2	5	16	17	19	+5
10 Brechin	18	2	4	2	9	11	1	3	6	11	26	16	-17

THIRD DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
		HOME					AWAY						
1 Arbroath	19	7	1	2	25	12	5	1	3	16	10	38	+19
2 Ross Co	18	5	1	3	26	13	5	3	1	17	10	34	+20
3 East Stirling	19	7	0	3	21	11	4	1	4	9	14	34	+5
4 Alloa	17	4	0	3	17	8	7	0	3	20	11	33	+17
5 Albion	18	5	1	1	13	5	3	2	6	17	27	27	-2
6 Queen's Pk	19	4	2	4	17	15	3	3	3	10	9	26	+3
7 Berwick	18	3	3	4	15	17	3	1	4	10	14	22	-6
8 Dumbarton	18	0	4	4	7	13	4	2	4	19	20	18	-7
9 Montrose	18	2	2	6	12	19	2	2	4	11	25	16	-21
10 Cowdnbth	18	2	1	7	5	19	1	0	7	4	18	10	-28

NON-LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

UNIBOND

PREMIER DIVISION: Alfreton 2 Bishop Auckland 6; Bamber Bridge 2 Accrington Stanley 1; Frickley 2 Emley 1; Guiseley 1 Blyth Spartans 3, Lancaster 0 Barrow 2. Postponed: Altrincham v Leigh RMI; Runcorn v Colwyn Bay.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barrow	25	16	4	5	39	15	52
Bishop Auck	25	13	7	5	55	35	46
Boston Utd	23	10	10	3	28	19	40
Altrincham	24	11	4	9	42	28	37
Runcorn	23	11	4	8	43	31	37
Guiseley	23	9	9	5	36	29	36
Hyde Utd	24	8	10	6	40	31	34
Winsford Utd	19	9	5	5	21	15	32
Colwyn Bay	21	9	5	7	30	31	32
Emley	21	9	4	8	35	30	31
Chorley	24	9	3	12	34	47	30
Leigh RMI	16	8	5	3	23	13	29
Frickley	23	8	5	10	26	34	29
Gainsborough	20	8	4	8	23	21	28
Accrington S	27	6	10	11	32	37	28
Marine	20	7	6	7	26	26	27
Spennymoor	21	7	6	8	27	34	27
Lancaster	26	7	5	14	34	43	26
Blyth Spart	22	6	7	9	27	30	25
Bamber Bridge	22	6	5	11	28	42	23
Radcliffe B	23	4	6	13	24	43	18
Alfreton T	22	2	4	16	16	49	10

FIRST DIVISION: Ashton 4 Droylsden 2; Belper Town 1 Eastwood Town 3; Lincoln 2 Farsley Celtic 0; Stocksbridge PS 1 Worksop 0; Trafford 3 Flixton 1; Whitley Bay 2 Gretna 0; Whitby 1 Harrogate Town 0; Workington 0 Netherfield 0. Postponed: Great Harwood v Bradford P A.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: Postponed: Norsemen v Crouch End Vampires.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Chatham 0 Sheppey 3; Corinthian 1 Slade Green 1; Crockenhill 0 Swanley Furness 3; Faversham 2 Ramsgate 0; Greenwich 1 Thamesmead 1, Lordswood 2 Canterbury 2; Tunbridge Wells 2 Herne Bay 4; VCD 5 Beckenham 1; Whitstable 1 Deal 2. Postponed: Cray v Erith

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Hailsham 1 Ringmer 1, Langney Sports 1 Eastbourne Town 1; Mile Oak 1 Whitehawk 2; Peacehaven and Telscombe 2 Saltdean 3, Portfield 1 Chichester 1; Redhill 1 Horsham YMCA 2. Wick 2 Shoreham 4

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Bridport 3 Chard 4, Chippenham 0 Calne 1; Keynsham 1 Brislington 3, Mangotsfield 3 Bristol Manor Farm 2; Melksham 2 Westbury 3. Paulton 3 Odd Down 1: Taunton 4 Bridgwater 0; Tiverton 4 Elmore 2. Torrington 1 Backwell 3

COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash 2 Farnham 2; Bedfont 5 Feltham 4, Chipstead 4 Merstham 0; Cobham 0 Viking Sports 1, Cranleigh 0 Godalming and Guildford 2; Hartley Wintney 0 Reading 2. Netherne 3 Raynes Park Vale 3. Sandhurst 1 Cove 0; Walton Casuals 2 Ashford 3. Postponed: Chessington and Hook v Westfield

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Brierley Hill 0 Lye 0; Cradley 1 Ettingshall 1; Darlaston 1 Bustleholme 2; Ludlow 3 Kington 3; Tividale 1 Gornal 2; Westfields 2 Malvern 4; Wolverhampton 1 Stourport 7. Postponed: Bloxwich v Wolverhampton Casuals; Walsall Wood v Stafford

RYMAN

PREMIER DIVISION: Chesham 4 Aylesbury 2; Dulwich 2 Kingstonian 1; Enfield 0 Boreham Wood 3; Gravesend and Northfleet 1 Bromley 0; Hendon 2 Harrow 1; Heybridge Swifts 1 Bishop's Stortford 0; Oxford City 0 Basingstoke 1; Purfleet 4 Dagenham and Red 0; St Albans 4 Hitchin 1, Sutton United 3 Carshalton 1; Yeading 2 Walton and Hersham 4.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sutton Utd	22	14	5	3	47	24	47
Dagenham & R	23	14	4	5	43	25	46
Kingstonian	23	10	9	4	38	24	39
Boreham W	20	11	4	5	43	23	37
Purfleet	22	9	7	6	34	29	34
Walton & H	22	10	3	9	30	38	33
Heybridge	19	10	2	7	35	29	32
Harrow Boro	21	10	2	9	32	32	32
Hendon	21	9	5	7	29	30	32
Aylesbury	23	9	3	11	31	39	30
Enfield	24	8	5	11	33	41	29
Bromley	21	7	7	7	28	25	28
Carshalton	18	7	6	5	31	30	27
St Albans	19	8	3	8	25	24	27
Dulwich	22	7	6	9	34	34	27
Bishop's S	24	8	1	15	30	41	25
Chesham	22	6	6	10	41	41	24
Gravesend & N	21	7	2	12	33	40	23
Hitchin	21	5	7	9	27	30	22
Basingstoke	16	6	4	6	18	27	22
Yeading	22	4	6	12	25	38	18
Oxford City	22	4	5	13	18	45	17

FIRST DIVISION: Abingdon Town 1 Thame Utd 0; Aldershot Town 4 Wokingham 0; Barton Rovers 2 Berkhamsted 2; Billericay 2 Grays 1; Bognor 1 Worthing 2; Chertsey 4 Staines 0. Leyton Pennant 3 Romford 1. Uxbridge 3 Wembley 0; Whyteleafe 0 Leatherhead 3. Postponed: Croydon v Molesey, Hampton v Maidenhead United. Second division: Braintree 4 Wivenhoe 4; Edgware 6 Cheshunt 0; Egham 0 Windsor and Eton 1; Horsham 0 Banstead 4; Hungerford 1 Bracknell 2; Leighton 0 Bedford Town 0; Marlow 1 Chalfont St Peter 3. Northwood 0 Wealdstone 0; Tilbury 2 Barking 1, Tooting and Mitcham 1 Met Police 0; Witham 1 Canvey Island 2. Third division: Corinthian Casuals 4 Camberley 2; East Thurrock 1 Aveley 1, Epsom and Ewell 3 Croydon 1, Flackwell Heath 1 Hemel Hempstead 3; Ford 6 Clapton 0; Harlow 1 Hornchurch 5; Hertford 4 Ware 2; Kingsbury 3 Wingate and Finchley 2; Lewes 3 Dorking 1. Southall 2 Tring 3

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Burscough 3 Nantwich 1; Chadderton 2 Rossendale 2: Clitheroe 2 Blackpool Rovers 0; Holker Old Boys 0 Darwen 0; Mossley 2 Glossop North End 0; Ramsbottom 3 Haslingden 1. Postponed: Atherton Collieries v Atherton LR; Maine Road v Salford; Newcastle Town v Kidsgrove; St Helens v Prescot Cables; Warrington v Vauxhall GM

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Consett 2 Easington CWM 1; Marske 0 Dunston Federation 9; Seaham Red Star 2 Stockton 1; Tow Law Town 4 Shildon 1. Postponed: Durham City v Crook Town. Second division: Chester Le Street 2 Evenwood Town 1; Eppleton CW 0 Alnwick Town 1, Hebburn 1 Prudhoe Town 2, Marske Utd 0 West Auckland 2; Norton 2 Whickham 0;. Washington 0 Peterlee 2; Willington 3 Shotton Comrades 1

DR MARTENS

PREMIER DIVISION: Ashford 1 Rothwell 1; Cambridge City 1 Forest Green 2; Gloucester 1 Gresley 0; Merthyr 2 Worcester 1; Nuneaton 3 Sittingbourne 1; Salisbury 2 St Leonards 0; Burton Albion 5 Bromsgrove 1; Hastings 2 Bath 2; Kings Lynn 1 Atherstone 4.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Merthyr	22	15	4	3	39	16	49
Forest Green	23	12	6	5	51	36	42
Worcester City	23	13	3	7	35	24	42
Bath	22	11	7	4	43	28	40
Dorchester	23	11	7	5	36	21	40
Halesowen	22	10	8	4	34	18	38
Atherstone	23	11	5	7	35	28	38
Nuneaton	23	11	4	8	51	35	37
Kings Lynn	20	10	5	5	31	31	35
Burton Albion	24	9	7	8	33	26	34
Crawley Town	23	8	8	7	34	32	32
Gloucester C	23	7	8	8	24	24	29
Tamworth	21	8	4	9	39	36	28
Hastings	23	7	7	9	38	39	28
Bromsgrove	21	8	3	10	43	40	27
Salisbury	23	7	6	10	32	38	27
Gresley Rov	24	8	3	13	36	49	27
Rothwell Tn	23	4	10	9	30	50	22
Sittingbourne	23	6	3	14	24	37	21
Cambridge C	21	5	4	12	25	44	19
Ashford Town	19	3	3	13	13	42	12
St Leonards	23	2	5	16	23	57	11

MIDLAND DIVISION: Bilston 2 Moor Green 1; Solihull Boro 4 Wisbech 0; Stafford 1 Bedworth 2; Blakenall 2 Hinckley Utd 2; Evesham Utd 2 Brackley Town 0; Raunds Town 6 Shepshed Dynamo 0; Sutton Coldfield Town 0 Corby Town 0; VS Rugby 0 RC Warwick 5. Postponed: Redditch v Stourbridge. Southern division: Cinderford 1 Witney 3; Fareham 2 Tonbridge Angels 3; Fleet 2 Clevedon 0; Havant 2 Newport AFC 3, Margate 0 Bashley 2; Weston-s-Mare 4 Waterlooville 2; Weymouth 2 Dartford 0; Chelmsford City 1 Newport I-O-W 1; Cirencester Town 1 Baldock Town 0; Erith & Belvedere 1 Yate Town 0

INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Barwell 3 Oldbury U 1, Bloxwich Town 4 Pelsall V 1, Rushall O 3 Shifnal T 1; W Mid Police 1 Stapenhill 1; Willenhall 3 Pershore T 0. Postponed: Knypersley V v Kings Norton; Rocester v Halesowen H; Sandwell v Wednesfield, Boldmere St M v Bridgnorth

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare 1 Denaby 1; Brigg 0 Glasshoughton Welfare 0; Eccleshill 1 Curzon Ashton 0; Maltby MW 4 Hatfield Main 0, Ossett Albion 3 Ossett Town 0; Pickering 0 Hucknall 0; Pontefract Cols 3 North Ferriby 3; Selby 2 Thackley 2: Sheffield 6 Liversedge 1.

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Chelmsley Hay 2 David Lloyd AFC 2; Dudley Sports 1 Bolehall Community College 4, Handsaker Timbers 1 Worcester 2; Highgate 1 Knowle 1: Wellesbourne 3 Kenilworth 3. Postponed: Alvechurch v Studley BKL; Bolehall Swifts v Meir KA; Coleshill v Continental Star; Massey Ferguson v Southam.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cogenhoe 0 N Spencer 3. Ford Sports 1 Long Buckby 0; Holbeach 2 Boston 1; Kempston 1 Wootton 1; Spalding 5 Bourne 2; Stotfold 3 Potton 2; Wellingborough 2 Desborough 3; Yaxley 3 S and L Corby 2.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Diss 3 Stowmarket 2; Lowestoft 0 Wroxham 2; Newmarket 1 Bury Town 2; Soham 2 Ely 3; Sudbury 2 Sudbury Wanderers 1; Warboys 2 Histon 2; Woodbridge 1 Felixstowe Port 1.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Brockenhurst 1 Lymington 7; Downton 1 Bemerton Heath Harl 3; East Cowes 1 Cowes Sports 1; Gosport 3 Portsmouth RN 1; Whitchurch 3 Andover 4

COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Abingdon 8 Bicester 1; Banbury 2 North Leigh 2; Burnham 1 Kintbury 0; Carterton 1 Endsleigh 3; Fairford 2 Shortwood 1, Hallen 1 Almondsbury 2; Swindon Supermarine 2 Highworth 0; Tuffley 3 Harrow Hill 1; Wantage 3 Didcot 1. Premier division North: Bedford 0 Buckingham Athletic 1; Biggleswade 3 Langford 2; Harpenden 1 Welwyn Garden 0; Letchworth 0 Brache Sparta 4; London Colney 0 Hoddesdon 3, Milton Keynes 2 Arlesey 5; Potters Bar 3 Toddington 0. Premier division South: Beaconsfield 1 Brook House 1; Brimsdown 2 Waltham Abbey 7; Cockfosters 0 Hanwell Boro 1: Harefield 2 Woodford 2; Hillingdon Boro 1 Ruislip Manor 0. Postponed: Berkhamsted v St Margaretsbury; Islington v Hanwell. Senior division: Ampthill 0 Mercedes Benz 3; Caddington 2 Holmer Green 3; Houghton 0 New Bradwell 4; Leverstock Green 3 Shillington 0; Stony Stratford 5 Kent 0; The 61 F C 2 Winslow 5; Totternhoe 0 Tring 5. Postponed: Risborough v Biggleswade

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LEAGUE OF WALES: Carmarthen Town 1 Cwmbran 2; Inter Cable-Tel 0 Barry 0.

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Brora 4 Wick Academy 3; Deveronvale 1 Buckie Thistle 1; Fraserburgh 1 Peterhead 2; Huntly 5 Cove 1; Lossiemouth 0 Elgin 2; Nairn County 0 Forres Mechanics 4; Rothes 1 Keith 4. Postponed: Fort William v Clachnacuddin.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ards 1 Omagh 2. First division: Ballyclare 3 Larne 1; Dungannon Swifts 9 Limavady 0; Newry 2 Distillery 1.

FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Finn Harps 0 Dundalk 1; Sligo 2 Drogheda 1, Cork City 4 Shelbourne 4; Shamrock Rovers 1 Kilkenny City 0; UCD 1 St Patricks Ath 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
St Patricks	18	11	6	1	28	14	39
Shelbourne	17	11	2	4	34	20	35
Shamrock Rov	17	9	3	5	23	18	30
Dundalk	17	8	4	5	25	18	28
Cork City	17	7	6	4	26	21	27
Finn Harps	18	8	2	8	27	28	26
Bohemians	17	5	8	4	28	19	23
Derry City	17	6	5	6	18	16	23
Sligo Rovers	17	5	7	5	25	28	22
UCD	17	3	7	7	16	22	16
Kilkenny City	16	1	3	12	10	36	6
Drogheda Utd	18	0	5	13	11	38	5

POOLSCHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
2	3	3	3	2	1	1	1	2	3	2	1	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	3	1	1	2	1	2	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	1
1	3	1	1	3	3	3	1	2	3	3	1	1	3	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

FORECAST: Half-time: no claims required — winnings sent automatically — forecast is good, nine score draws and 14 no-score draws. Full-time: no claims required — forecast is very low; 13 score draws and one no-score draws.

هكذا من الأصل

FOOTBALL

Clark finds City's fall no laughing matter

Manchester City 2
Nottingham Forest 3

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

IT WAS said of Frans Hals, the great artist of the Dutch golden age, whose portraits include *The Laughing Cavalier*, that he could paint 50 different shades of black. Clearly he was born 350 years before his time. A man of those talents is equipped for one job above all others: managing Manchester City.

Black, black, black. There are no longer any reds or whites down Maine Road and to find a trace of silver you have to cross town. There used to be a touch of purple about the place when Malcolm Allison was in residence and a hint of sickly green when John Bond succeeded him, but this is now a den of such dead-of-night dullness that the dogs yawn in the streets.

Two penalties by Van Hooijdonk and a close-range goal by Campbell gave Nottingham Forest a 3-0 lead inside 55 minutes before City's late charge. They are a rank bad side, as their position in the Nationwide League first division indicates, and the fans know it. For most of the day they kept quiet, out of sympathy for their hopeless players, and at the end they could not raise a proper boo. These are broken people.

The challenge of bringing a smile to the face of Frank Clark, City's decent, beleaguered manager, would probably confound even Hals. You could put a plumed hat on his head, frame his neck with a nice ruffed collar and stuff his pockets with guilders and he would still pass for *The Gloomy Roundhead*.

After this defeat, against the club that he left last year, he may have to dress up in 17th-century garb to avoid social exclusion in the prosperous streets of north Cheshire. "There he goes," the neighbours might otherwise whisper, behind their hands, "the man who thought he could turn the City round! Poor chap. Let's hope he gathers his wits before it's too late."

Clark is not to blame for this club's fall to within a point of the bottom. He is one of the most honourable men in the game, but the task he took on is much tougher than he imagined. The fact that City continue to be well supported does not help him. Like all batty cults, hopes remain obstinately high among believers of an imminent renewal.

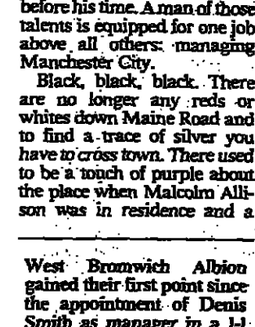
Shelia headed them back into the game within a minute of Van Hooijdonk's second penalty. Dickov then squeezed in a shot off the post, although, as the ball struck Van Hooijdonk's boot on its way over the line, it was really an own goal. But two goals were more than City deserved because Forest, without ever looking marvellous, were certainly a good deal better than their fragmented opponents.

Relegation would bring City to their knees and that day may not long be delayed. Furthermore, when Clark leaves — for nobody has made a career at this club — there will not be a queue of managers waiting for the nod. Who wants to work for a club that has set standards of incompetence to which other duffers can only aspire?

The rest of the country may enjoy a huge joke at their expense, but for those thousands who regularly tip up to watch a team that merits only the choicest contumely, it is no laughing matter. It is 20 years since they had a team worth watching and still they come, if only to bicker. The past decade has brought nothing but humiliation and the worst, one feels, is yet to come.

A crowd of 31,839, their biggest of the season, turned up and left without a murmur, though a few stayed behind to barrack. Evidently, they do not have homes to go to.

MANCHESTER CITY (4-1-1-1-1-1-1): T Wright — I Brightwell, M Sheilla, G Wiekens, A Vaughan (sub: J van Blerk, 46min) — M Brown (sub: A Scully, 73) — G Brannan — C Russell — G Kinkladze — P Dickov — U Ritzer.
NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2): D Beasant — D Lyttle, C Cooper, S Chettle, A Rogers — S Stone, A Johnson (sub: C Armstrong, 86), S Glenmill, I Woan (sub: T Bonalair, 41) — P van Hooijdonk, K Campbell.
Referee: A Wiley.



Campbell: close-range goal

PAUL ROGERS / NEWS TEAM BIRMINGHAM



Stevens, left, the Tranmere Rovers defender, clears the ball under pressure from Forster, of Birmingham City

Emerson leaves Robson in the dark

BRYAN ROBSON, the Middlesbrough manager, was mystified by the failure of his troublesome midfield player, Emerson, to return from a Christmas break in Brazil for the game with Stockport County yesterday. Emerson, who was fined by Robson last season after making several unauthorised trips to his home country, has been more settled this term while helping Middlesbrough to the top of the Nationwide League first division.

Robson, whose side stayed ahead of Nottingham Forest on goal difference after their 3-1 victory at the Riverside Stadium, had allowed Emerson to return home during a two-match suspension. But he said: "We got a telephone call yesterday afternoon saying that Emerson had not got on a plane to arrive back in England. I don't know any more than that. He seemed to be happy at the club and there have been no explanations from him." Mikkel Beck scored twice in the second half to secure Middlesbrough's win.

Sheffield United edged above Charlton Athletic into third place by beating the Londoners 4-1 at Bramall Lane. United gained revenge for a defeat at Charlton earlier in the month with goals from Gareth Taylor, Dean Saunders, Brian Deane and Nicky Marker.

Wolverhampton Wanderers moved into the play-off positions by inflicting Port Vale's sixth successive defeat with their second win in three days. Swindon Town's fall continued with a 2-0 home defeat by Ipswich Town, for whom David Johnson scored his seventh goal in nine games since moving from Bury.

Watford, the second division leaders, were held to their second draw of the Christmas holiday by Plymouth Argyle at Vicarage Road, but Notts County, who top the third division, extended their lead over Peterborough United to seven points with a 2-0 home win over Hartlepool United. Peterborough's miserable Christmas continued with a surprise 2-1 home defeat by lowly Brighton. The only side below Brighton, Doncaster Rovers, crashed 8-0 at Leyton Orient.

BY BILL EDGAR

Jemson frustrates Sunderland

Oxford United 1
Sunderland 1

BY NEIL HARMAN

LIGHT years from the Stadium of Light, Sunderland were reminded yesterday that having to deal with the small brethren of the Nationwide League first division can be an exasperating experience.

The last time that Sunderland came to the Home Counties, three months ago, they were beaten at Reading, were fourteenth in the table and their manager, Peter Reid, was breathing fire and brimstone. From that shock, they pieced together a sequence of 13 unbeaten league games, gratefully extended by one inside the homely Manor Ground.

On Boxing Day, they were watched by 41,000, an atmosphere the like of which most of their players had never experienced before. Two days later, 32,000 fewer were squeezed together to watch them.

Much of the football yesterday was of the rough and ready variety, the ball spending most of its time in a gentle parabola towards the head of centre forward, Niall Quinn, of whom it was once said: "He has two good feet — a pity about the other 4ft 6ins."

The former Irish international used his depth of knowledge and superior height advantage to telling effect for his team's goal, nodding down a Michael Gray cross that was caught full-bloodedly by Nicky Summerbee. Whether or not the ball would have gone in was irrelevant, because Kevin Phillips jabbed out a leg to deflect it past the goalkeeper for his seventh goal in nine matches.

Oxford needed to show of what they were made. Their previous manager, Denis Smith, had left them in the lurch the week before Christmas to join West Bromwich Albion and in his place stood his erstwhile assistant, Malcolm Crosby, the man who had led Sunderland out for the 1992 FA Cup final.

Oxford were almost fluked back into the game after 20 minutes when Martin Aldridge, aiming a cross towards the middle of the penalty area, struck the inside of the far post and watched it bobble along the six yard line. The home side were to find succour in the shape of the referee, Tony Leake, who had judged Darren Holloway to have handled Stuart Massey's corner to which at least six players had flung their bodies. Nigel Jemson kept his nerve in front of the packed terraces of travelling Wearsiders to score the penalty.

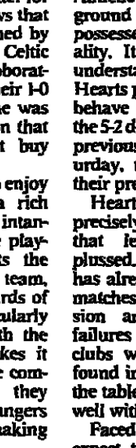
Reid anticipated that Oxford, playing with the slope, would accentuate the tempo of the game, but it was his contenders, facing up, who eventually determined that they should win the game. For long periods, the ball bounced aimlessly around, but the Sunderland manager and his assistant, Bobby Saxton, exhorted their players to keep replenishing Summerbee on the right wing, whose marker, Mike Ford, had the turning capabilities of an old Corsair.

The game might have been turned on its head in its final act when Massey launched himself at Jemson's cross from ten yards, connected powerfully, only to watch Sunderland's French goalkeeper, Lionel Perez, leap to his right and push the ball on to the foot of a post.

OXFORD UNITED (4-4-2): P Whitehead — L Robinson, D Purse, P Gilchrist, M Ford — S Massey, M Gray, D Smith, J Beauchamp — N Jemson, M Aldridge (sub: J Cook, 65min).
SUNDERLAND (4-4-2): L Perez — D Holloway, J Craddock, D Williams, M Gray — N Summerbee, A Rae, L Clark, A Johnston (sub: M Smith, 68) — K Phillips, N Quinn.
Referee: A Leake.

Rangers give rivals little cause to hope

KEVIN McCARRA
Scottish commentary



After the victory over Dundee United at the weekend, by the handy margin of 4-1, Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, listed the players who should be ready to return to action in Friday's Old Firm match. His rivals can hardly have endured listening to the entire roll call. Bad enough that they should even have to bear the men filed under G: Gascoigne, Paul; Goram, Andy; Gough, Richard.

Smith was surely being disingenuous when he said that selecting a side for the game with Celtic would give him a headache. It is the other contenders for the Bell's Scottish League premier division title who suffer the migraines. They may have felt the old, familiar throbbing at the temples starting up on Saturday, when a tenth consecutive League title for Rangers began to look probable.

On occasion, Smith will attempt to explain that the season is never a saunter for his team, but he knows that such claims are scorned by the public. Even so, Celtic do seem bent on corroborating the assertions. Their 1-0 defeat at St Johnstone was another demonstration that wealth alone cannot buy invulnerability.

Rangers continue to enjoy the advantages of a rich squad, but there is an intangible quality to those players that supplements the talent. Although the team, by the highest standards of the sport, is not particularly good, its fixation with the premier division makes it redoubtable in league competition. Whenever they drift into trouble, Rangers have that rare gift of making something happen.

Against Dundee United, they were 1-0 down and playing cumbersomely until Brian Laudrup, in the three minutes before the interval, scored one goal and fashioned another for Alex Cleland. It was as if Rangers, with a snap of the fingers, had reversed the flow of a river.

United are resentful of the decision that denied them the chance to draw level from the penalty spot in the second half. As television demonstrated, the referee was quite wrong in indicating that the ball had struck Cleland's chest. The full back had handled, although it might still be argued that there was no intent in the contact.

A couple of goals by Marco Negri late in the match drowned out United's complaints. There is a trick involved in plucking a handsome result from a messy match and only Rangers have mastered it in the premier division.

Heart of Midlothian, at least, are proving diligent apprentices. The Edinburgh club muscled past Celtic and into second place with their 3-1 victory at East End Park.

Beating rugged adversaries such as Dunfermline Athletic on their own ground proves that a club possesses a robust personality. It would have been understandable if each Hearts player had started to behave like a recluse, after the 5-2 defeat by Rangers the previous weekend. On Saturday, though, they made their presence felt.

Hearts had succeeded in precisely the type of fixture that leaves Celtic nonplussed. Wim Jansen's side has already lost five league matches in the premier division and four of those failures have come against clubs who are now to be found in the bottom half of the table. Celtic do not cope well with intransigence.

Faced with teams that expect to be in difficulties and pack the midfield to ensure a cluttered game, Celtic can look perplexed. The club's head coach has yet to hit upon a strategy that will be effective when Celtic need to slice through the congestion.

A Laudrup would be handy and the Dane is likely to be leaving Ibrox. He is not, however, bound for the other side of Glasgow. Manchester United believed they would sign him in the summer last year and there is also a possibility that he could join his brother Michael, at Ajax.

If Laudrup is determined to go, Rangers will have to decide whether they should sell soon or risk losing him without receiving a fee. Celtic supporters look forward to waving goodbye.



Laudrup: departing

Fulham gain momentum

Fulham 1
Bristol City 0

BY BILL EDGAR

EXACTLY a year ago, Kevin Keegan claimed that he got no pleasure from Newcastle United's 7-1 win over Tottenham Hotspur because he saw the anguish on the face of Gerry Francis, his ailing managerial counterpart.

Now ensconced as Fulham's chief operating officer, Keegan need not feel sympathy for John Ward after bringing about what should be only a blip in his Bristol City side's surge to automatic promotion to the Nationwide League first division.

Instead, Keegan can take comfort from the fact that Fulham are at last finding the momentum that Mohammed Al Fayed sought when he brought him to Craven Cottage three months ago. After the first 14 games under Keegan and Ray Wilkins, the manager, brought just four victories, the subsequent three matches have all been won.

Furthermore, yesterday provided evidence that the initial successes on the pitch that have followed the financial injection by Al Fayed may be encouraging a rising interest in southwest London for the club. Two consecutive wins helped to transform a restive 5,000-strong crowd for the home game with Burnley ten days ago into a boisterous throng of 13,000 yesterday.

Wilkins, whose side clinched victory through Paul Moody's 51st-minute goal, paid tribute to the support. "It was important that we sparked a little bit of enthusiasm in the crowd today," he said. Wilkins, however, refused to comment on reports that he hopes to sign Ally McCoist, the Rangers and Scotland striker.

Fulham already have great strength up front, with Moody and Paul Peschisolido forming an impressive partnership in the style of Keegan's pairing with John Toshack. While Peschisolido, at 5ft 7in, plays Keegan's skilful, Mighty Mouse role, the taller Moody provides a strong aerial presence that won Fulham the game yesterday.

He glanced home a header from Steve Hayward's 51st-minute free kick shortly after Shaun Goater, the Bristol striker, had volleyed against the crossbar at the other end.

Moody nearly doubled the lead when his deflected shot was saved at full stretch by Keith Welch, the Bristol goalkeeper, after Peschisolido, typically, hassled a defender into an error and created the chance for his partner.

Thirteen victories in an unbeaten 15-match run before yesterday had taken City from nineteenth place to a comfortable second, 16 points ahead of Oldham Athletic in third.

Ward, who would probably have earned a third successive manager-of-the-month award had his side won, believes Fulham are on a roll. "We've lost to a good team," he said. "They're certainly going to finish in the top six."

FULHAM (4-4-2): M Taylor — M Lawrence, A Neilson, S Collemen, R Hensire (sub: D Cutip, 54min) — N Smith (sub: R Carpenter, 86), P Brasswell, P Trollope, S Heyward — P Peschisolido, P Moody.
BRISTOL CITY (4-4-2): K Welch — A Locke (sub: S Torpey, 81), L Carey, S Taylor, M Bell — G Goodridge, T Doherty (sub: S Murray, 64), R Edwards, B Tinnion — C Cramb, S Goater.
Referee: J Robinson.

Dack double propels Sutton into top place

Sutton United 3
Carshalton Athletic 1

BY WALTER GAMMIE

SUTTON United enjoyed a fruitful afternoon on Saturday. They convincingly beat their local rivals 3-1 before a bumper crowd of 1,833 at Gander Green Lane and then learnt that they had displaced Dagenham and Redbridge, who crashed 4-0 at Purfleet, at the head of the Ryman League.

Sutton had brought Dagenham within range by beating them 2-0 on their own pitch with a performance to savour. Although they did not touch the same heights, they were never troubled after Jimmy Dack scored two first-half goals, both teed up by John Ugbah. Dack's first took a deflection off the heel of a defender, but the second flew in clean and true from 30 yards.

The deserving Ugbah got on the scoresheet himself after half-time, when he met a Dack corner with a near-post header. It was no less appropriate that the tireless Thompson scored Carshalton's goal in the 85th minute from the penalty spot, having been brought down as he weaved into the area.

John Rains, the Sutton manager, features large in *United We Stand*, a history lovingly produced in the club's centenary season. Many are the photographs of Rains holding up silverware. His aim now is to get his hands on the Isthmian League trophy again and return Sutton to the Vauxhall Conference, from which they fell after five seasons in 1991.

"That would be the stuff of fairy tales," Rains said. "But we're firmly rooted in reality here. We've got 20 matches to play. There are miles and miles to go."

SUTTON UNITED (4-4-2): L Cleverly — D Brooker, G Berry, P Clark, J Vigo — A Salako, J Ugbah, J Dack, D Eyeatt — N Akrour (sub: M Hanlan, 73min), J Vansittart.
CARSHALTON ATHLETIC (3-4-1-2): A Blake — T Alexander, D Coney, M Beard — M Ford, B Kingsford (sub: P Adam, 55), V Jeffrey, S May — M Edwards (sub: C Bartley, 63) — R Thompson, R Newberry (sub: A Reid, 88).
Referee: J Kasey.

Rivals resort to stalemate

Exeter City 1
Torquay United 1

BY MEL WEBB

THERE was a time in the dim and distant past when the arrival of marauders from a neighbouring community might have resulted in the seizure of as many bags of flour as possible and the appropriation of the visitees' women. These exercises in tribal warfare had a habit of being messy and inconclusive affairs. This was the 20th-century equivalent: nothing much has changed.

If the hordes from nearby Torquay who descended upon St James' Park yesterday had it in mind to give the stout yeoman of Exeter City a pillaging that they would not forget, they were sadly disappointed. And if Exeter were intent upon putting Torquay United on the wrong end of a whipping, they could think again, too.

Derbies only rarely live up to their billing and when the protagonists are both seeking a place in the Nationwide League third division play-offs at the very least, that serves only to make things exponentially scruffier. Torquay had their chances; they even missed a penalty in the second half. If they had scored then, the phrase involving "travesty" and "justice" would have sprung readily and unbidden to mind. Exeter were not much better.

A draw was the right result from an unsatisfactory encounter, if only for the fact that neither side deserved to win. Perhaps there was too much at stake for the match to become a festival of free-flowing football; the outcome was dreary deadlock full of inconclusive midfield mush.

Meanwhile, Exeter's supporters did have a consolatory something for which to jeer Torquay. There are few more effective salves for failure to beat local opposition than the chance to crow at a missed penalty, especially one that should never have been given in the first place.

Peter Fox, the Exeter manager, and his Torquay counterpart, Kevin Hodges, were united on one point, and that was the excoriation of Mike Pierce, the referee. They had right on their side, too — in the midst of a sea of mediocrity, Pierce's boat was tossed around more than most.

He refused to allow a goal on either of the second-half occasions that Rowbotham, Exeter's leading scorer, had the ball in the Torquay net, and at least one of them should have been allowed. He also gave Torquay a penalty in the 65th minute when Roberts fell over Richardson's feet. Justice was served when Gibbs shot over the bar.

Torquay led after six minutes when the Exeter defence was statuesque as Leadbitter bundled the ball home from 12 yards from Jack's curling cross. Rowbotham scored his fifteenth goal of the season from a penalty four minutes later after Gibbs had clattered into him. At least the referee got that one right.

EXETER CITY (4-3-3): A Bayes — J Richardson, W Clark, N Blake, S Gale — M Devlin, P Tisdale, N Medlin — N Ilman (sub: C Fry, 82min), D Rowbotham (sub: A Cyrus, 89), S Flack.
TORQUAY UNITED (3-5-2): M Gregg — J Gittens, A Watson, J Robinson — S Tully, A Gurney, G Clayton, C Leadbitter, P Gibbs — R Jack, J Roberts.
Referee: M Pierce

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Thomas misses one that counts

Swansea 24
Pontypridd 24

BY GERALD DAVIES

ARWEL THOMAS created a record at St Helens on Saturday. He kicked eight penalty goals, which is the highest for any individual at Swansea, and missed only one all evening, in the second minute of injury time. Unfortunately, it was the one that mattered, the one that would have given victory to his club.

It was a long shot, though, just three metres inside his opponents' half. Had he succeeded, it would have given Swansea a win that they scarcely deserved, despite dominating the possession. Indeed, they could have had *all* the possession, but would still not have had the wit to cross the Pontypridd line.

The visitors have not won at St Helen's for 25 years, so long ago that Denis John, their coach, was still a player. That they came so close this time in bringing this barren sequence to an end says a great deal about their tenacious qualities. Their strength of character insists that they do not give in. Here, they had to draw on their reserves of doggedness. Outscrummaged and beaten in the lineout to an extent that would have demoralised other teams, Pontypridd held firm in defence.

Not only that, but, from the meagre crumbs they managed to grab for themselves, they created some wonderful continuous movement of a kind that the home team rarely achieved. The visitors scored two marvellous tries, one in each half, each displaying what they refer to nowadays as "soft hands" — delicate timing and giving of passes.

This was something that Swansea failed to achieve. Late in the second half, with an



Thomas: kicking record

overlap of four to two and plenty of space, the home team failed to make their advantage count and, after delays, Taylor was caught.

In the closing stages, a similar chance occurred. With the visitors' defence at sixes and sevens and with the home team's players lining up in sequence, Thomas chose to kick. These were costly errors. Furthermore, it was disappointing to see a team of Swansea's obvious quality squander such chances.

The return of Stuart Davies has brought a solid presence to Swansea and this was evident in the way that the team's powerful scrummage gave such a torrid time to their opponents. There was a firmness to their play, but not the subtlety to create the spaces that can win tough matches such as this. They relied too much on Gibbs in midfield and need a playmaker to complement him.

While Thomas kicked five penalties in the first half to Jenkins's one, the highlight was the try fashioned by Steele Lewis's deft pass to give Wyatt the score.

Five minutes after the interval, the visitors manufactured a better try when Jenkins, who had had to play second fiddle to his opposite number in the first half, made a fine, classical break from the Swansea ten-metre line. He linked up with James and then Lewis, who gave a superb pass to Morgan to score. Jenkins's conversion brought the scores level.

Thereafter, it became a kicking duel, leaving everyone to wonder who would have the final say. It fell to Thomas, who failed to end the match with an immaculate scoresheet.

SCORERS: Swansea: Penalty goals: A Thomas 8 (9min, 11, 18, 36, 40, 48, 60, 75) Pontypridd: Tries: Wyatt (24), Morgan (45). Conversion: Jenkins. Penalty goals: Jenkins 4 (10, 55, 62, 75)

SCORING SEQUENCE (Swansea first): 3-0, 6-0, 9-0, 9-5, 12-5, 12-8, 15-8 (half-time) 15-15, 18-15, 18-18, 18-21, 21-21, 21-24, 24-24

SWANSEA: M Back; R Rees, M Taylor, S Gibbs, A Hams, A Thomas, A Booth; J Evans, G Jenkins, C Anthony, P Arnold, A Moore, R Appleyard, D Thomas (rep: C Charvis, 68min), S Davies

PONTYPRIDD: K Morgan; G Wyatt, D James, S Lewis, A Bamard; N Jenkins, P John, A Griffiths; J Evans, N Eynon, S Bundy (rep: G Prosser, 69), S Roy, M Lloyd (rep: G Lewis, 77), M Williams, D McIntosh.

Referee: N Williams (WRU)

Champions left languishing by deadly display of kicking

RICHARD POHLE



Townsend leads a break against Wasps at Franklins Gardens. Northampton failed to score a try, but six penalty goals ensured that the visitors' poor run continued

Northampton 18
Wasps 10

BY MARK SOUSTER

AFTER five consecutive league defeats, Wasps, the champions, are in a mess. Their game against Richmond tomorrow night assumes huge significance as a team that swept all before them last season now wrestle with chronic injury problems and an alarming dip in their fortunes.

While talk of a crisis is premature — and Nigel Melville, the director of rugby, refuses to concede that the match against Richmond is one that must be won — there is a crisis of confidence similar to the one that Northampton were experiencing a month ago. Three consecutive wins have lifted their spirits as well as their league position and whereas the talk a month ago was of relegation, it is now of qualifying for Europe.

That such a short burst of form can transform a club's standing demonstrates how tight the first division of the Allied Dunbar Premiership is. Wasps were assisted last year in not being distracted by Europe; this season, they have and other clubs have, to an extent, rumbled them. The unity of purpose that was their hallmark has evaporated and while their performance against Northampton was an improvement on that against Harlequins, they never looked as though they would win.

Melville can point to the long-term loss through injury of Andy Gomarsall, Rob Henderson and Nick Greenstock, a list to which the name of Aaron James can now be added, but other clubs have dealt with similar problems. Perhaps Melville should use some of Chris Wright's money to strengthen the side. Wasps are too good to be flirting with relegation and Ian McGeechan, the Northampton director of rugby, believes that their problems are only short term, but for Wasps to be languishing in tenth position, with only one win to their credit, is barely conceivable.

At Franklins Gardens, they got their tactics wrong. They lacked imagination and inspiration. A sign of their unease was evident in the opening seconds when Rees's attempted clearance was charged down. As the conditions deteriorated, Wasps, who had bolstered their pack with Cronin and Green in an attempt to counter Northampton's huge forwards, failed to adapt. They insisted on trying to overelaborate while Northampton did the simple things well. In Paul Grayson, the home side had the man for the occasion.

Grayson controlled the game superbly from fly half, his kicking out of the top drawer. Time and again, he propelled his forwards deep into Wasps territory with raking touch-finders, from where the visitors found themselves pinned down. Under increasing pressure, they conceded a rash of penalties, six of which Grayson converted — four of them in the first half-hour. He has now converted 22 out of 25 penalties in Northampton's past three league matches. In contrast, one incident in the first half summed up Wasps' frustrations. From a lineout in their own 22, King tried to run his way out of trouble. Instead, the fly half ran straight into it.

However, King, who because of injury, has been overtaken by Grayson in the England pecking order, has an inventiveness that the Northampton man lacks. After 17 minutes, King produced one of the few moments to illuminate a grey afternoon when he broke clear from halfway and appeared to have the speed and space to make it to the line. Instead, he looked for support and the Northampton defence snuffed out the danger.

That, too, typified the game, Wasps' only threat coming from sporadic solo attacks. There was no cohesion or continuity. Their try, near the end, was another case in point. Rodber lost possession in midfield, White hacked on the loose ball, Sleightholme made a hash of covering and Friday, the replacement scrum half, hacked on and touched down. It was something out of nothing.

Rodber had another outstanding game defensively, but on too many occasions he was content to keep the ball in the scrum when quick possession would have paid dividends. Northampton's worry is that, with all the possession that they have enjoyed against Richmond and Wasps, they have not manufactured a try. The nearest they came on Saturday was in the first quarter, but Townsend's woeful pass to Cohen resulted in a knock-on. Still, with Grayson in such form, none of the 8,600 crowd seemed to care.

SCORERS: Northampton: Penalty goals: Grayson 6 (5min, 13, 26, 30, 48, 66). Wasps: Try: Friday (75). Conversion: Rees. Penalty goal: Rees (62).

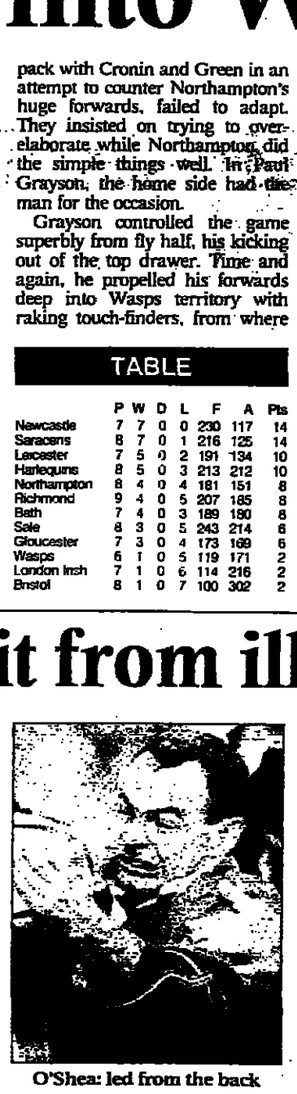
SCORING SEQUENCE (Northampton first): 3-0, 6-0, 9-0, 12-0 (half-time), 15-0, 15-3, 18-3, 18-10

NORTHAMPTON: J Bell; J Sleightholme, G Townsend, A Northey, B Cohen (rep: H Thorneycroft, 40min); P Grayson, M Dawson (rep: J Bramhall, 48); G Pagel, A Clarke, M Stewart; J Phillips, J Chandler, D Mackinnon, B Pountney, T Rodber

WASPS: G Rees; S Rotier, L Sense, A James (rep: P Sampson, 46), K Logan; A King, M Wood (rep: M Friday, 67); D Molloy (rep: A Black, 75), S Mitchell (rep: T Leota, 60); W Green, S Shaw, D Cronin (rep: A Reed, 60), L Dallaglio, M White, P Scrivener.

Referee: B Campsall (Yorkshire).

Grayson puts the boot into Wasps



O'Shea: led from the back

TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newcastle	7	7	0	0	230	117	14
Saracens	8	7	0	1	216	125	14
Leicester	7	5	0	2	191	134	10
Harlequins	8	5	0	3	213	212	10
Northampton	8	4	0	4	181	151	8
Richmond	9	4	0	5	207	185	8
Bath	7	4	0	3	189	180	8
Sale	8	3	0	5	243	214	6
Gloucester	7	3	0	4	173	169	6
Wasps	6	1	0	5	119	171	2
London Irish	7	1	0	6	114	216	2
Bristol	8	1	0	7	100	302	2

Mannix is worth the long wait for England

Sale 11
Bath 13

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE FOREIGN legion of fly halves in the Allied Dunbar Premiership first division contains, mercifully, a potential England player. It is no secret that the England team management is ticking off the 18 months to Simon Mannix, a former New Zealand All Black and Sale's puppeteer at No 10, gaining his residential qualification and, perhaps, resolving a longstanding problem.

It was a pity that, with Mike Catt at centre for Bath at Heywood Road on Saturday, a chance to compare Mannix with the England incumbent was lost. The Sale man is an out-and-out pivot and playmaker, who has the clever hands, nimble footwork and field of vision to match those skills, whereas views on the best position of the mercurial Catt could keep a debating society in session for a month.

Work permit problems have dogged the Wellington-born Mannix, 26, since he took over at fly half from Paul Turner, the club's erstwhile talisman, a season and a half ago. Now these difficulties have been resolved, the way is clear for Mannix to stamp his international credentials under the guidance of John Mitchell, Sale's New Zealand-born coach and, significantly, the England assistant coach.

Mannix felt that he got bogged down in the heavy conditions, yet he exerted by far the most cultured influence in a game more muscular than cerebral, which, ironically, was settled by the head of Eric Peters getting in the way of a last-gasp dropped goal attempt that Mannix swore was going over. "I always aim for the top corner," the Bath No 8 said, pointing to his right temple.

If Sale had snatched victory with the final kick, Bath could hardly have complained. As Mitchell observed, however, two tries, both created by Mannix, were snatched at by Bracendell and Beim in the first half. When Beim, again courtesy of Mannix, eventually scored, in the 78th minute, it was too wide out for Howarth to steer over the conversion.

With four leading prop forwards out, it was remarkable that Sale competed so effectively, in defiance of some woefully confused refereeing. Bringing on Graham Dawe was not a deliberate taunt to Bath, but a necessary reaction to a back injury to Diamond. The former Bath hooker, who is likely to make his first league start for Sale against Gloucester tomorrow, enjoyed the irony of the situation.

Dawe recognised the value of the sort of victory that Bath regularly ground out in their stately days and which delighted Andy Robinson. Six points behind Newcastle and Saracens, the Bath coach still has the league and two cup competitions as attainable targets. "Winning away is very important, but the good thing about this win was that it reminded me of some of the Bath performances of a few years ago, when we didn't necessarily perform but came away with two points," Robinson said.

Butland scored Bath's only try, although he and Nicol suffered by comparison at half back with Mannix and the lively Ellis. Instead, Bath wrapped the game around the indomitable Redman, who gave a towering display, while Regan dominated the front row battle as Sale's tight five struggled to stay on terms. Northampton can expect more of the same from Bath tomorrow.

SCORERS: Sale: Try: Beim (77 min). Penalty goals: Howarth 2 (7, 40). Bath: Try: Butland (46). Conversion: Catt. Penalty goals: Catt 2 (18, 39).

SCORING SEQUENCE (Sale first): 3-0, 3-3, 3-6, 6-6 (half-time), 6-13, 11-13

SALE: J Mallinder; D Rees, J Bracendell, S Howarth, T Beim; S Mannix, K Ellis; D Williamson (rep: M Dawe, 71 min), S Diamond (rep: G Dawe, 51), D Bell, S Raiwalui, D Baldwin (rep: C Murphy, 25-37), D Erskine, P Sanderson (rep: D O'Cuinneagain, 74), C Vyvyan.

BATH: M Perry (rep: J Callard, 74); I Evans, P de Glanville, M Catt, A Adebayo; R Butland, S Nicol; K Yates, M Regan, J Mallett (rep: V Ubogu, 74), N Redman, B Cusack, N Thomas (rep: D Eamshaw, 9-21, 78), R Webster, E Peters

Referee: J Pearson (Durham).

Full results and league tables ..... Page 36

Harlequins profit from ill-luck of the Irish

Harlequins 26
London Irish 24

BY NICOLAS ANDREWS

EVEN Andy Keast, the Harlequins director of rugby, was moved to apologise to Willie Anderson, his opposite number, for the manner of this defeat for London Irish. "We got out of jail," Keast said. Yes, and then mugged some unsuspecting Irishmen on the way home.

What more could the Exiles have done? They scored more tries, were faster, more imaginative and more committed. They dominated with ball in hand for long periods and scarcely missed a tackle in defence all afternoon. Yet still they contrived to fall behind to a captain's try from Bill Davison, which Thierry Lacroix inevitably converted, deep into time added on.

If the otherwise impressive Niall Woods had kicked three first-half penalties, if Sam Burns had conceded with a dropped goal attempt, if Justin Bishop had touched down before being bundled into a corner flag by Lacroix, it would probably have been different. A famous first league victory at The Stoop would have been won and London Irish would have begun their annual survival bid a couple of months earlier than usual.

"We put a bit of pride back into Irish rugby," Anderson said. "That's the way we want to play the game — with ball in hand. Everybody made a statement out there. It gives us something to build on. These guys now know that they can compete with the best, but we should have kicked our own penalties and scored from our own positions."

That was the difference. In Lacroix, Harlequins have a man to keep them in touch when things are not going according to plan by converting penalty kicks. In addition, on the rare occasions that opportunities presented themselves — at either end of the match — first Nebbitt, on his Allied Dunbar Premiership debut, and then Davison were able to pounce.

"The Harlequins are not a side by nature that dog it out and keep fighting to the end," a relieved Keast said and, while his cosmopolitan blend still falls some way short of the finished article, he has at least found the core of supposedly British steel that adds discipline to the mix.

Harlequins are struggling with a lengthy injury list and only seven of the XV that started against Leicester before Christmas did so on Saturday. That they made far too many errors for a side supposedly with title aspirations was hardly surprising. "With all the changes, at least we continued to try to play rugby," Keast said. "The injury problems are a major worry."

London Irish, largely because the club lacks the money and strength in depth, are a young and more settled side, which Anderson has moulded into a most untypical unit. They have considerable pace on the wings and enterprise in the centre. O'Shea, with two tries, led from the back, while Hogan and Burns had excellent games at half-back. The forwards, too, played with controlled aggression, recycling quickly and efficiently.

The pity is that, with only just over a third of the season gone, it may already be too late. The Exiles are, as always, obvious relegation candidates and Saracens are the visitors to Sunbury tomorrow night. It will take time for Anderson to instill the discipline and concentration required for survival — and they will need the sort of luck that deserted them on Saturday.

SCORERS: Harlequins: Tries: Nebbitt (2min), Davison (80). Conversions: Lacroix 2. Penalty goals: Lacroix 4 (30, 41, 62, 66) London Irish: Tries: O'Shea 2 (19, 40), Bishop (49). Conversions: Woods 3. Penalty goal: Woods (6)

SCORING SEQUENCE (Harlequins first): 7-0, 7-3, 7-10, 10-10, 10-17 (half-time), 13-17, 13-24, 18-24, 19-24, 26-24.

HARLEQUINS: S Stewart; L Bellgos, T Tollett, W Carling (rep: J Keyter, 49min), D Luger; T Lacroix, H-Hamos, M Cuttiita (rep: A Ozdemir, 41), T Billups (rep: P Delaney, 51), R Nebbitt, Gareth Llewellyn, R Studdeck, R Jenkins (rep: A Leach, 24-38), B Davison, L Cabannes

LONDON IRISH: C O'Shea; J Bishop, N Burrows, M McCall, N Woods; S Burns, N Hogan; J Fitzpatrick (rep: L Mooney, 66), A Redmond (rep: R Kellam, 68), G Halpin, G Fulcher, M O'Kelly, K O'Connell, K Spicer, C Bird (rep: R Yeabsley, 68).

Referee: S Lander (Liverpool).

Battling Scotland may turn clock back to Hastings

BY KEVIN FERRIE

IN TIMES of distress for Scottish rugby, many supporters are looking hopefully towards the latest attempt by one of the game's longest-established stars to revive his international career.

For a decade and more, the name Hastings could be wrapped around Scottish rugby as a security blanket. Gavin, in particular, was a colossus at the back. Since his retirement two years ago, as Scotland's most-capped player, the downward spiral has seemed endless, its low point reached when South Africa ran in ten tries at Murrayfield this month.

The notion that a man called Hastings, a record cap-holder to boot, might become the platform on which to rebuild Scotland's rugby fortunes has a certain talismanic ring to it. Scott Hastings, brother of Gavin, has received excellent reviews in recent weeks since he was switched to become Watsonians' last line of defence — and frequently their first point of attack.

Few were better placed to judge the performance of the 33-year-old, who made his reputation at international level as a hard-tackling centre with an eye for an opening, than the man with least reason to wish him well on Saturday. Sean Lineen may have held a world record for a midfield partnership with Hastings when he retired from the international scene five years ago, but these days he is coach of Boroughmuir, Watsonians' closest neighbours and fierce rivals. On Saturday, Lineen's men came through an unusually low-scoring, but characteristically close, Tennents Premiership first division encounter at Myreside, the lead changing hands twice in injury time before Boroughmuir won 14-12.

The sides had been level at half-time after tries by Cammy Mather, of Watsonians, and Stuart Reid, of Boroughmuir — two players competing for back-row places in the national trial next week.

Campbell Aitken kicked two wind-assisted penalties for Boroughmuir in a scrappy second half, but, the 80 minutes up, Gordon Dickson, Watsonians' replacement flanker, went under the posts for a try that Duncan Hodge converted (having missed three other attempts on goal). Boroughmuir clinched victory when Dougie Wyllie, another international veteran at 34, showed remarkable composure to stroke a 30-yard dropped goal with the last kick of the match.

Lineen praised his former teammate: "It is getting harder and harder to score these days as defences become more difficult to break down, but Cammy Mather and Scott were the two players out there who were capable of making breaks and creating opportunities. Scott may not be much faster than Scotland's present full back, Rowen Shepherd, but he is simply a very confident individual who knows he has all the skills."

With the top five clubs facing the bottom five as the day began, there were four "upsets", the biggest of them at The Greenyards, where Melrose, the champions, suffered their first league defeat for more than two years, losing 19-8 to Hawick, their Borders rivals.

Of the realistic contenders for the title, only West of Scotland gained ground, courtesy of a 39-10 demolition of Heriot's FP.

Andrew Ker, the Watsonians coach, put the day's events into perspective. "I'm a lot happier than I was before I heard the news from Melrose," he said. "After our experience last season, when we only lost to them, the feeling was that two defeats would be the end of your championship hopes. Hawick's win keeps us in with a chance."



Hastings: very confident

هكذا من الأهرام

هكذا من الأصل

Deepening gloom at Memorial Ground contrasts with long-term optimism at Kingsholm

Newcastle inflict another black day on Bristol

Bristol 8
Newcastle 50

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

WHAT is it about black that makes you think of inevitability? New Zealand, of course, is as good a starting point as any, but now the men in black from Newcastle have rolled remorselessly to the top of the Allied Dunbar Premiership and tomorrow at Welford Road, Leicester will examine whether they can be easily dislodged.

Last season, it was the turn of another sable-coloured club, Wasps, to dominate league rugby and there is a poignancy in their fall from grace this season. Newcastle, of all people, will have noted that, on Saturday they fielded five former Wasps against hapless Bristol, upon whom they inflicted their heaviest home league defeat and one that could have been much heavier had Rob Andrew not missed seven kicks at goal.

Newcastle achieved their half-century without playing particularly efficiently, yet the cumulative pressure left Bristol so destroyed that, in the final seven minutes, they leaked four tries. Bristol had believed that they could go no lower than the 76-0 away defeat by Sale last month and that they had turned a corner since, but, as they walked off the Memorial Ground, they looked a dejected team, physically and morally.

It says something for a club of Bristol's traditions that the Christmas crowd of 5,307 was a record for the season. With a capacity of around 12,000 and the visit of unbeaten opponents, the Memorial Ground should have been abuzz, but there is little sense of anticipation there these days. Indeed, the day when the ground itself is sold to raise capital and leased back to the club's administrators may not be far away.

Debts of more than £2 million hang over the club and defeat stalks the players. A win, any kind of win, would give them a glimmer of hope, but even the cup on Saturday does not offer them the best of prospects, since it is to ambitious Worcester that they must travel. It is sad that players such as Craig Short, a genuine home-grown product at open-side flanker, should play so well in a lost cause.

Brian Ashton, the Ireland coach, was there to assess the form after injury of David Corkery, but he may have left believing that Ross Nesdale rather than Keith Wood could be his hooker when the five nations' championship begins in February. Nesdale exemplified Newcastle's intelligent work ethic and, had his backs not been so selfish, he would have scored a couple of tries.

Those missed opportunities were what pained Andrew, the Newcastle director of rugby, most, but he believes them to be the product of ring-rustiness. "We are only three games back into the league season after the break for internationals and you need to play matches regularly to develop as a team," he said.

"That's why the clubs are so upset about the structured season. All the teams are doing at the moment is trying to develop their season, to give themselves a platform so that they can be in the race when the race begins, which won't be until well into April."

Only when Gary Armstrong scored the second of his three tries did Newcastle nudge their way past Saracens to the top of the first division, on points difference but with a game in hand. The little Scotland scrum half was everything that Bristol were not: positive, elusive and sharp as a tack in his relationship with Pat Lam. The Samoan flanker has been the mainspring of so much for Newcastle since he joined them less than a year ago and Bristol found him almost impossible to pull down.

Four times he was the recipient of a little behind-the-back pass from Armstrong, skipping clean through for a try from the first just before the interval that left Bristol under severe pressure, even though they had the breeze at their backs after the interval. It made no difference because they could not secure enough ball to play with. Their back division was closed down so swiftly that Burke was left with few options other than to kick, which he did well, but always surrendering possession to the Newcastle lineout.

The 7ft 1in Metcalfe is developing well, and Ryan's muscular skills gave the talented but raw Brownrigg an object lesson in how and where to make ground. That Bristol scored first, through Tieuti, after only 64 seconds was merely illusion. Within six minutes, Newcastle were level, within 15 they were in front and all Bristol could look for was damage limitation.

The extent of Newcastle's control was admirably demonstrated ten minutes from time. Tait ignored Nesdale outside him and made the try-line, but knocked on as he went for the touchdown. His forwards, less than pleased, rocked the Bristol scrum back and heeled against the head for Armstrong to succeed where his fellow Scot had failed. It was the straw that finally broke Bristol's back.

SCORERS: Bristol: Try: Tuett (2min). Penalty goal: Burke (40). Newcastle: Tries: Armstrong 3 (6, 74, 81), Lam (38), Childs (58), Tait (62), Naylor (76), Tuigamala (79) Conversions: Andrew 2. Penalty goals: Andrew 2 (15, 26).

SCORING SEQUENCE (Bristol first): 5-0, 5-5, 5-8, 5-11, 5-18, 8-18 (half-time), 8-23, 8-28, 8-33, 8-38, 8-45, 8-50.

BRISTOL: I Jones (rep. J Lewsey, 60); D Tuett, P Hull, K Maggs, D Yapp; P Burke, R Jones; M Worsley, K Dunn, K Fullman (rep. M Morgan, 22), P Adams (rep: S Pearce, 69), T Deverge, D Corkery, C Short, J Brownrigg.

NEWCASTLE: S Legg; J Naylor, G Childs, A Tait (rep. J Wilkinson, 77), V Tuigamala; R Andrew, G Armstrong, S Graham (rep: N Popplewell, 40), R Nesdale, P Vanzandvliet, R Metcalfe, G Weir, P Walton, P Lam, D Ryan.

Referee: C White (Gloucestershire).



Armstrong dives over for the first of his three tries

PHOTOGRAPHS: ADRIAN SHERRATT



Robert Jones gets the ball clear after the Bristol pack had gained possession

Richmond's big men unable to shake Fanolua

Gloucester 26
Richmond 20

By Peter Bills

SOMETIMES, Richard Hill, of Gloucester, mused after this important Allied Dunbar Premiership win at Kingsholm on Saturday, you long for a Lynagh or Lacroix to put pressure on the opposition. But, he added, Mark Mapletoft is learning.

It must be a good thing for English rugby that he is. One of the few England-born fly halves still operating in the Premiership, he represents an endangered species.

Hill, the director of rugby at Gloucester, lamented the absence of an old head at No 10 when his team led 26-8 with only ten minutes remaining. Lynagh would assuredly have drilled the ball deep into opposition territory, inviting them to score their tries from 80 yards if they could. Mapletoft's derring-do in that situation was brave but flawed. Richmond scored two thumping late tries and, by the end, were searching for the converted try which would have represented Christmas robbery.

"We lack experience to kill off a side," Hill admitted. "There are times when we have a free-flowing, let's-all-play-rugby attitude."

Yet, while Gloucester are signing new players, they will not recruit a fly half. Instead, Steve Ojomoh will join from Bath this week, a move certain to raise eyebrows in some quarters, given the player's often less-than-fanatical commitment to training.

Hill insists that his arrival will benefit player and club. "He needs another challenge and will give us that extra dimension. I know Steve — if he puts his head down and works for two years, he will be back in the international frame again," Hill said. He recognises the need for a stronger squad and more experience, but, unlike most other clubs, that will be bought with time, not money: "A lot of our players are aged 22 or 23. We won't set the world alight in the next year or two, but, in three years' time, with luck, we should have grown together."

Richmond's constellation of stars were so disappointing after a storming start that Hill's opposite number, John Kingston, conceded that some heads had gone down when Lumsden scored Gloucester's third try. That move, like so many others, followed a turnover offered by the visitors.

In the Quinnells, Clarke, Williams and Davies, Richmond seemed to have the players with the bulk and physique to cope with a heavy pitch, but some things do not change, among them Gloucester's forward strength and motivation on their own ground.

Behind the scrum, Fanolua was outstanding. His strength broke tackles, his speed surprised those trying to close him down and his defence was sure and powerful. Bateman tried so hard to be creative for Richmond, but found few chinks in a Gloucester midfield made so secure by Fanolua, whose try after 13 minutes was the result of quick second-phase possession.

SCORERS: Gloucester: Tries: Fanolua (13min), Johnson (40), Lumsden (70) Conversion: Mapletoft (70) Penalties: Mapletoft 3 (31, 37, 65). Richmond: Tries: Williams (10), Bateman (72), Fallon (78) Conversion: Mason (72) Penalties: Mason.

SCORING SEQUENCE (Gloucester first): 0-3, 0-8, 5-8, 8-8, 11-8, 16-8 (half-time) 19-8, 26-8, 26-15, 26-20

GLOUCESTER: C Catling; B Johnson (rep. R Jewell, 54), T Fanolua, R Tombs, A Lumsden; M Mapletoft, S Benton; T Windo, N McCarthy (rep. C Fortey, 21), P Vickery, M Cornwell, D Sims, P Glanville, N Carter, S Devereux.

RICHMOND: S Mason, J Wright, A Bateman, M Hutton, J Fallon, M Peni, A Pichot; D Crompton, B Williams, J Davies, C Quinnell, C Gillies, B Clarke, R Hutton (rep. R Martin, 27), S Quinnell.

Referee: A Spreadbury (Somerset)



Channel 4 looks a gift-horse in the mouth



MATTHEW BOND

TV ACTION REPLAY

Racing offered two moments of high emotion over the extended weekend. Despite being handed it on a set of racing plates, Channel 4 rather muffed theirs. Until then, their build-up to the King George VI *Chase had been enjoyable* and as authoritative as it was possible to be on a day when none of the interviewed connections seemed to fancy their *chances much.*

But then came the big moment. The Johns, Francome and Oaksey, had done their stuff in the paddock, McCririck was just picking up some strong demand for an outsider called See More Business when, *suddenly*, Desert Orchid, by several furlongs still the nation's favourite racehorse, appeared. Back home we all went "ah" as we were supposed to and marvelled at how well he was looking.

Back in the Channel 4 Racing control unit, the director thought "who's that *old* nag getting in the way?", *turned on some* really tacky music and got Brough Scott to rattle through the runners as they paraded *in front of the* new grandstand that Francome has taken such an inexplicable dislike to. It was no way to treat an equine legend *and no way to treat the* non-expert viewers whom Channel 4 might have expected to attract on Boxing Day. If Des Lynam had been there, he *would have interviewed the* horse for goodness' sake.

There was better and worse to come. As the parade finished, *the cameras* finally picked out Dessie again — hurrah! Colin Brown turned him, his old stable girl let go of the halter-rope and he was off ... at a very serious gallop. It was a wonderful sight, so wonderful that the director felt obliged to cut away to an extended crowd shot at the *earliest opportunity.*

Which is why Oaksey was gasping "marvellous" and Francome talking about Brown having his arms pulled out of their sockets while we watched the bleary-eyed Kempton Park crowd and Dessie disappeared into the far distance.

On Saturday, the BBC did rather better with their emotional moment, the departure of Julian Wilson after 32 years. *Mind you*, what with Peter O'Sullevan retiring only a month ago, they've had a bit of practice recently. The good news was that, because the Welsh National meeting was not part of *Grandstand*, Wilson was spared being chased round Chepstow by Sue Barker. The bad news was that it might have been *more fun* if he had been.

O'Sullevan sent best wishes from afar: "Enjoy the great finale you so richly deserve." If he had a tenner on Earth Summit, who won the big race at 25-1, I expect he did.

Having the luxury of effectively hosting your own retirement show turned out to be something of a mixed blessing. For a start, while we have grown accustomed to Barker *posing prettily in the paddock* at Longchamp and Lynam leaning nonchalantly on the rails at Aintree, Wilson presented his final programme in front of a blue velvet curtain. No doubt somebody, somewhere, has a perfectly splendid explanation.

Perhaps he was making the point that all the jolly bits have now been delegated elsewhere. Jim McGrath does the commentary, Richard Pitman and Peter Scudamore do the form and the replays, Jonathan Powell interviews the connections ... so the BBC's racing correspondent might as well spend the afternoon in front of a blue velvet curtain.

Given the presentational style, it will come as a surprise to nobody that the BBC singularly failed to capture the atmosphere of the meeting. But their camera coverage of the races themselves almost made up for it, helped by one of the most photogenic racecourses you will find in Britain. When it's not raining.

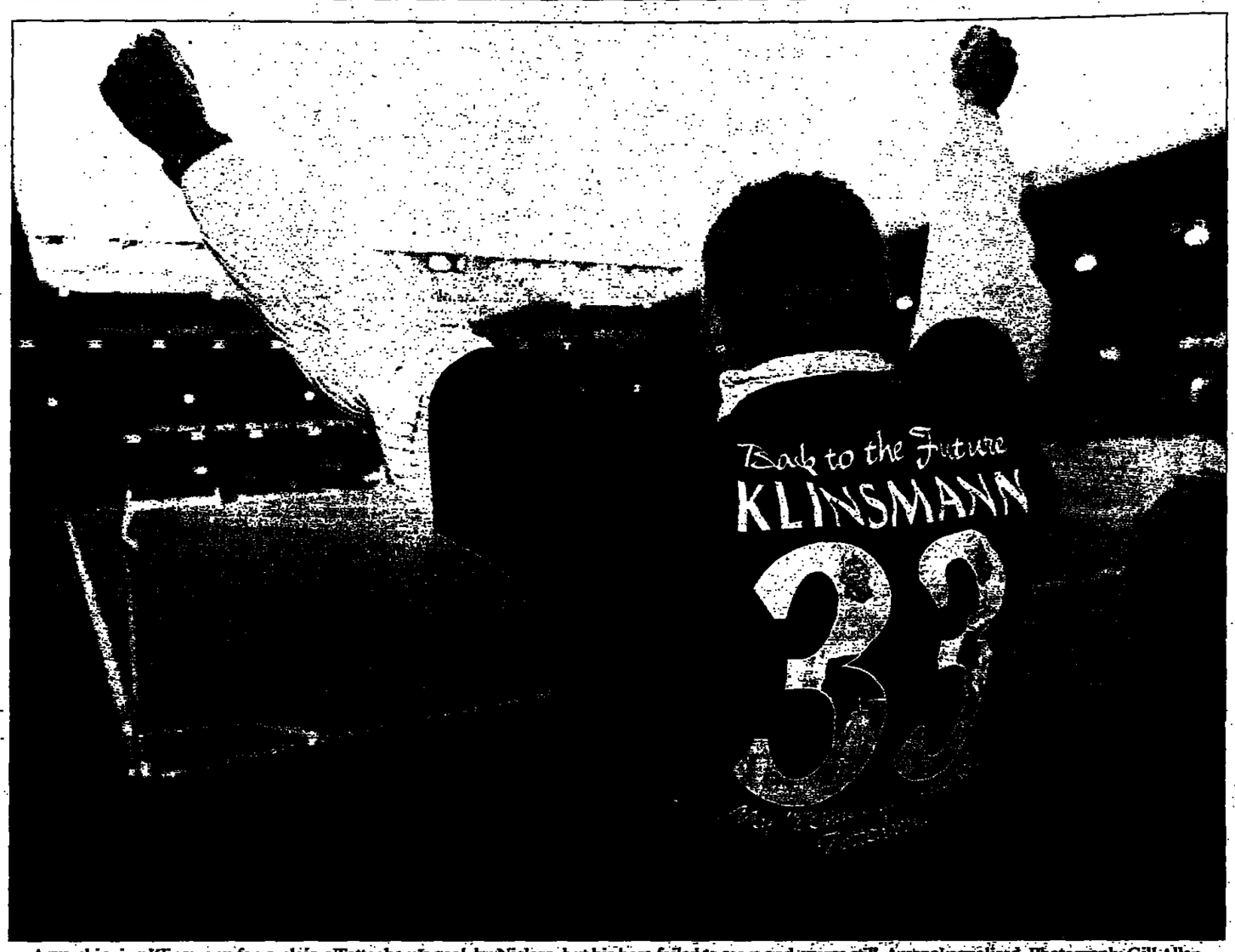
Wilson, it become clear, was not a man who believed in saving the best till last. As he meandered casually through the afternoon, you saw what O'Sullevan's recorded tribute had meant when he talked about "what you see of Julian being one-tenth of what you get". His mind presumably already elsewhere, at one point he even had to be gently reminded of the name of the King George VI winner. If this was his best, it was definitely time to move on.

But the point is, it wasn't his best. Paradoxically, what I would regard as some of his finest work has come very recently when the arrival of presenters such as Barker and Clare Balding freed him to prepare the short but thorough feature material that modern race coverage devours. Here, both he and the BBC could capitalise on his authority and expertise, rather than his charming but somewhat outdated presentational skills.

Balding, who is being groomed as his successor, is no slouch at either, but I still have the feeling over the coming year of transition that it will be Wilson who will be more missed by BBC Racing than O'Sullevan. Desert Orchid, on the other hand, will be more missed than either of them.

Second coming at White Hart Lane fails to bring Tottenham and Gross instant cure for all ills

Klinsmann miracle has to go on hold



A worshipping Klinsmann fan acclaims Tottenham's goal, by Nielsen, but his hero failed to score and, worse still, Arsenal equalised. Photograph: Gill Allen

LYNNE TRUSS



Outside White Hart Lane yesterday lunchtime, a bloke was selling Klinsmann shirts at six quid a go. "Back to the Future" was the rather clever motto: with a big 33 and pictures of the returning hero's face. "You're quick off the mark with that," I complimented him. "Did you have them ready, or something?" "Oh, I knew he was coming," he said, tapping his nose. Had John the Baptist sold sweatshirts, he'd have done it in just this manner, I swear.

By contrast with these Messianic overtones, last week on this very spot I asked a *Spurs Monthly* seller to expound on the more mundane promise of the headline "*Les is back*". "*Is Les back, then?* Do you think he'll make a difference?" I asked, pointing. But the bloke was a different sort of bloke. He just stared at me blankly. "No idea," he finally answered, when I'd repeated the question. "I don't support Spurs, myself."

The trouble with Christmas is that, when you're not reminded of Christianity, you're reminded of *It's A Wonderful Life*, which is worse. And Jürgen Klinsmann's *return to Tottenham fits into the* Frank Capra syndrome rather well. It's as though Spurs have spent the last 2½ years finding out what life would have been like if Klinsmann had never been born. Big shudders all round. Doomy music. A sharp wind blows bits of *random snow — and the* unthinkable happens. A club demoralised, finished, depending finally on a long-haired Frenchman to score their rare goals, with Gerry Francis powerless to stop a terrible decline.

But what's this? By the same *supernatural intercession that* removed him, Klinsmann is restored. He realises that being at Tottenham is wonderful after all and that every life touches many others. On his miraculous restoration from heaven knows where, lots of people come along with money and they cheer and feel terrific. And best of all, a cash-till rings and Tottenham get their wings.

If it didn't turn out quite like a feel-good movie yesterday in Tottenham's North London derby against Arsenal. I suppose you just have to be grown-up about it and ask yourself — how much history can a single occasion bear? Yesterday's match was a hard-fought affair and Klinsmann got all the rapturous welcome due to a captain of Germany turning out for a failing Premiership club who cherish his memory. But that was all it was, really. In terms of miracles, it was the feeding of — what? Say, 250. It was the turning of water into Ribena.

This was fine by me, however. *Having confidently advised* Christian Gross last week that he must build his team around the skills of David Ginola, I swiftly learnt that he was keeping a rather large ace up his sleeve. Damn. It was like advising a Third World country to manage its affairs by diplomacy when in fact it's got the bomb and several aircraft carriers it forgot to mention. So, as far as I was concerned, the mere presence of Klinsmann yesterday was proof that Gross has big (if rather unimaginative) ideas of his own. And that he certainly knows how to cheer up the fans on a drizzly, cold North London afternoon.

Because they were very happy indeed. Whatever it cost to get the measly 1-1 draw, it was worth it, to cheer up that *miserable* mob for a an hour or so. Last week, when they were 3-0 up, did they stand up? No. But this week, they stood up for all sorts of things. They stood up if they loved Jürgen. They stood up if they were 1-0 up. They were walking in a Klinsmann wonderland: They sang *Football's Coming Home* and a Bryan Adams number, the name of which I didn't catch but which signified, repeatedly: "We're gonna win, we're gonna win, we're not losers, oh no, we're gonna win, good for us, come on you Spurs, we're gonna win."

For his own part, Klinsmann lived up to all the stories of work-rate and commitment. A strikingly well-proportioned man, he springs along, getting more use out of the balls of his feet than anyone I've seen. He's here, he's there, he's everywhere. He's up the front and he's down the back as well. But to be honest, that's where the excitement sort of dried up. See that man spring. What great proportions, what grace. See Tottenham go one goal up (Nielsen) and see Arsenal equalise (Parlour). *And see, um, well, lots and lots of* running and a few shots at goal and Ginola do cycle kicks and all that and Tottenham start to flag in the second half (this is a tradition) and a *game of merely satisfying* football end with a dot, dot, dot, and the predictable draw.

It didn't help Tottenham that several of their stars weren't playing. Ferdinand was out; likewise Anderton. Mabbutt, Sinton. Anderton was injured again, apparently, but obviously I don't dare advise Christian Gross on team philosophy.

Ruel Fox certainly made a decent impression of a human cannonball down the right-hand side, but I'm grasping at straws here. Fox's heroism was not the sort the crowd had hoped for. They wanted Klinsmann to get a goal, basically. And body surf, just like the old days. Instead of which, at the end of the match, Spurs were worse off than they were before, with Ginola injured and having slipped another place down the table.

The fans were still glad of Klinsmann, but one couldn't help feeling that the re-start of this love affair would be trickier than anticipated. Especially if — as Gross was not denying or confirming yesterday — the manager who pandered it is going down the swannee as well.

So now we know — what? Well, mainly why Frank Capra never made a film about Tottenham Hotspur. Miracles only happen in football when you don't prepare them. And they are rarely neat. "Tottenham, good old Tottenham!" Klinsmann may have yelled, as he loped the length of the pitch at White Hart Lane, doing a fine impersonation of Jimmy Stewart restored to Bedford Falls, and in love with life. But now he's back, he doesn't seem to have changed anything. Tottenham's feel-good factor lasted the first half and just a bit of the second. Happy New Year, Jürgen. And welcome back.

Please include a daytime telephone number. Fax to 0171-782 5211.

SPORTS LETTERS

e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Racing board on the wrong track

From Mr Tony Shewen

Sir, The British Horseracing Board is said to be considering a report forecasting that doubled prize-money will bring 3,417 new horses into racing. Where from? The quality of many horses competing on all-weather tracks is appalling and there is a trend towards a lower standard at the more modest end of National Hunt racing. This is partly because moderate performers on the flat turf, which might make decent hurdlers, are being raced on the all-weather. More significantly, there is a diminishing pool of well-bred horses to meet a growing demand.

Ireland and the West Country are no longer awash with horses and the ploughing up of old pastures, encouraged by the Common Agricultural Policy, has destroyed an essential *medium for breeding. The subsidies* have undermined much of the incentive.

The British Horseracing Board would do well to consider how the quality of racing can be improved within the present structure, rather than accepting a report advocating expansion with arguments based on a fundamental miscalculation.

Yours sincerely,
TONY SHEWEN,
(Secretary and former Clerk of the Course, Taunton Racecourse 1986-97)
Myrtle Farm,
Bickenhall, Taunton TA3 6TS.

Side-step and swerve vital parts of attacking armoury

From Mr Raymund Carroll

Sir, Gerald Davies has accurately articulated the differences in rugby between the hemispheres and concluded that southerners are a step or two ahead. Equally justifiably, he might have stated their players are a side-step or two ahead, nothwithstanding England's *display against New Zealand game earlier this month.*

In the wake of their failure to win the 1995 World Cup, New Zealand changed the way that rugby is played, leaving opponents — other than South Africa — having to catch up. By the new use of the back three in counter-attack, they have innovated more moves to keep the ball alive. This season, the southerners achieved new dimensions and the try difference (51-14) in the ten matches between the hemispheres reflects the imbalance generated by "new rugby".

With few exceptions, the main attacking ploy of northern backs is *the angled charge into the defensive* line. The ball shielded, they collide with the tackler, hitting the ground for the next phase. Sometimes, Bunce and Little imitate this, but abundant talent surrounds them. When decked, their ball-carriers, playmakers and side-steppers take over.

So where are the twinkle-toed role models for today's schoolboys — on rugby videos? Gerald Davies himself possessed the requisite *old skills to bamboozle, create,* delight and score using side-step, swerve and pace change. Schoolboys, more than ever, need to develop such skills.

Yours faithfully,
RAYMUND CARROLL,
The Beeches, Mill Lane, Cheadle SK8 2PY.

Referees showing quiet restraint

From Mr Alan Challoner

Sir, Mr Phil Whittick's letter (December 22) draws attention to what he sees as unreasonable application of *power by football referees, particularly* at the higher level.

As an ex-referee, I have another view. When I first started refereeing, the shoulder charge was permissible against any player who had possession of the ball. Although this is now history, another event has permeated the game — the use of the hands and arms as restraining forces. This is so prevalent that for a referee to stop play every time it happened would sorely disrupt the game.

However, there can be no doubt that these events register with the referee and, when he sees a constant perpetrator commit a foul that he feels is worth stopping the game for, he will do so. Thus Mr. Whittick will be judging any such offence purely on the instant event, whilst the referee will have been assessing the player's previous conduct in the game and will have been instinctively totting up his previous unpunished misdemeanours.

The trouble with viewpoints like those of Mr Whittick is that they do not take into consideration the dynamics of on-field interaction.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN CHALLONER,
13 The Village, Bodelwyddan, Denbighshire LL18 5UR.

Lessons for Naseem

From Mr Neil Allen

Sir, The narrow escape of Naseem Hamed, our talented but undeniably unorthodox boxer, in New York (report, December 22) recalls the 1922 essay by Heywood Broun, the American columnist, on the lightweight title bout in which the stylist, Benny Leonard, floored the challenger, Rockey Kansas, whose "fighting style was as formless as the prose of Gertrude Stein".

Broun wrote: "Down went Kansas. His past life flashed before him during the nine seconds in which he remained on the floor and he wished he had been more faithful as a child in heeding the advice of his boxing teacher. After all, the old masters did know something. There is still a kick in style and tradition carries a nasty wallop."

Yours faithfully,
NEIL ALLEN,
(*The Times* Boxing Correspondent 1956-76), 64 Ruskin Walk, SE24 9LZ.

Sharjah revelation

From Mr Paul Lea

Sir, Recently in the Gulf, we have witnessed the birth of something rare in English cricket — teamwork. This, combined with skilled players loving their game, has given us great excitement — and victory in Sharjah. *What a shame that* television programmers at home thought it too unimportant to show live.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL LEA,
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Far from enlightened

From Mr Jon Eagle

Sir, Oh not again! For the third time this season, the lights have extinguished on an FA Carling Premiership fixture (Wimbledon v Arsenal, Report December 23), further highlighting the shabby treatment inflicted on football fans.

A new ruling stipulating that home clubs unable to provide 90 minutes adequate illumination must forfeit the game to the visitors would prove a sensible panacea. After all, a mere one per cent of players' salaries would cover the expense of suitable back-up!

Yours faithfully,
JON EAGLE,
16 Buckleys, Great Baddow, Chelmsford CM2 7DY.

THIS WEEK IN TIMES SPORT



■ **Tomorrow:** Football — Dennis Irwin of Manchester United talks about his return from injury in the new year

■ **Wednesday:** Rugby — can high-flying Newcastle under Rob Andrew hunt down the Leicester Tigers?

■ **Thursday:** Sporting wizardry — Simon Barnes's magic numbers

■ **Saturday:** Football — Oliver Holt talks to Chelsea's Mark Hughes, back to lead the attack against his former club in the FA Cup third round's top match

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SPORT IN BRIEF

St Helens spend again for Smith

RUGBY LEAGUE: St Helens have underlined their ambition for next season by signing Chris Smith, the highly-rated Great Britain Under-21 wing, from Castleford Tigers. The two clubs have still to agree a fee.

Smith, 22, who scored six tries in 25 appearances for Castleford last season, was out of contract. St Helens have already signed Brett Goldspink, Paul Atcheson and Paul Davidson, from Oldham Bears, Jamie Olejnik, from Paris, and Paul Sculthorpe, from Warrington Wolves.

Huddersfield Giants, who will be playing in the Super League for the first time next summer, have signed Paul Loughlin, the centre, and Jeff Wittenberg, the prop, in a £25,000 deal from Bradford Bulls, the champions.

Three dropped

BOWLS: The Scotland selectors have dropped three of last year's side from their international trial match at Lanarkshire on Sunday January 18. Missing from the team who failed in their bid to give Scotland a seventh successive title are Ian Thomson, of Cumbernauld, Frazer Muirhead, the team captain from Bainfield, and Ian Campbell, of Lanarkshire.

Four players are in line for their first international honours — Mark Stenhouse, from East Fife, Mike Stephen, from Turriff, Darren Barnett, of Arbroath, and Graham Byrne, of Balbardie — while Sandy Syme, the Scottish champion, from Coatbridge, can add to his sole international appearance.

Craig again

CYCLING: The three leading mountain bike riders in Great Britain — David Baker, Nick Craig and Barrie Clarke — dominated the Royal Bank of Scotland 14 miles cyclo-cross race at Macclesfield yesterday. Victory went to Craig, the winner of the event two years ago, by two minutes, with Baker second and Clarke a further place behind in third place. All three have won professional national cyclo-crosstitles, but now tend to use the winter discipline as preparation for their summer season of mountain biking.

Patel steps in

RUGBY LEAGUE: Hanif Patel, a London financier who lives in Leeds, is to become the leading shareholder in Keighley, the troubled first division club, after succeeding in a takeover bid.

CRICKET: SOUTH AFRICA FAST BOWLER NEEDS THREE MORE WICKETS TO SURPASS TAYFIELD

Australia weather fierce storm named Donald

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ALTHOUGH Allan Donald, with a furious burst of fast bowling, did his best to make up lost ground for South Africa, Australia still have the whip hand after three days of a Melbourne Test match that is living up to all expectations.

After dismissing South Africa for 186, Australia ended the day at 67 for four in their second innings, Donald having accounted for Matthew Elliott, Greg Blewett and Mark Waugh in a devastating ten-over spell spell.

Nevertheless, Australia, who scored 309 in their first innings, have a lead of 190, with Mark Taylor, the captain, unbeaten with 30 and Ricky Ponting, who made a century in the first innings, eight not out. Taylor, intent on securing a winning start to what seems sure to be a closely-fought three-match series, has so far batted for 156 minutes and faced 118 deliveries.

Donald, who is bearing down on Hugh Tayfield's South Africa record of 170 wickets in Test matches, removed Elliott for one, Blewett for six and Mark Waugh for one to leave Australia 12 for three at one stage and bring his wicket tally to 168 from 36 Tests.

Elliott has had a sorry match. He made only six in the first innings and yesterday was offering no shot when struck high on the pads. Steve Bucknor had no hesitation in upholding the leg-before appeal. Blewett lasted only seven balls before providing Brian McMillan, at second slip, with a head-high catch and Mark Waugh's place must be in danger after another failure.

Shaun Pollock got the crucial wicket of Steve Waugh, who was caught down the leg side by the diving Dave Richardson as the South Africans fought to try and limit their fourth innings target on a pitch that is sure to give Shane Warne increasing assistance. Michael Kasprowicz and Warne finished with three wickets apiece in the South African innings, which stuttered to a close as the last five wickets went for 39 runs in 74 minutes after lunch.

Their hopes of coming close to parity on first innings ended when McMillan fell for 48. Three of the post-lunch wickets involved leg-before decisions, one of them a contentious verdict by Bucknor, who sent Pollock on his way after he had stretched well forward to Warne.

Mark Waugh's off spin was used to account for Gary Kirsten, top scorer with 83, and Richardson. Kirsten, who began the day on 61, left shaking his head after Steve Randell had given him out caught behind.

There seemed no doubt that the dogged Kirsten had been defeated by an unexpected degree of turn and bounce, but television replays of the dismissal proved to be inconclusive. It was a vital breakthrough for Australia, ending a 62-run partnership for the fifth wicket with McMillan. Kirsten faced 256 balls and hit seven fours in his highest score against Australia, improving on the 67 that he made at Sydney in 1994.

Australia bowled so tightly that South Africa's total occupied 416 minutes and 106.5 overs, Warne allowing only 64 runs from his 42 overs.



Donald roars out his delight at the fall of another Australian wicket at Melbourne



Warne: confident appeal

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

M T Elliott c Richardson b Klusener	6
*M A Taylor c Kirsten b McMillan	20
G S Blewett st Richardson b Symcox	26
M E Waugh c Richardson b Donald	0
S R Waugh c Cullinan b Donald	96
R T Ponting b Symcox	105
†I A Healy b Donald	18
P R Reiffel b Symcox	27
S K Warne c and b Pollock	1
M S Kasprowicz c Bacher b Symcox	0
G D McGrath not out	0
Extras (b 1, lb 6, nb 5)	12
Total (121.2 overs)	309

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-42, 3-44, 4-77, 5-222, 6-250, 7-302, 8-309, 9-309.

BOWLING: Donald 29-8-74-3; Pollock 28-6-76-1; Klusener 19-3-49-1; McMillan 10-3-19-1; Symcox 27.2-4-69-4; Kallis 4-2-5-0; Cronje 4-2-11-0.

Second Innings

M T Elliott lbw b Donald	1
*M A Taylor not out	30
G S Blewett c McMillan b Donald	6
M E Waugh b Donald	1
S R Waugh c Richardson b Pollock	17
R T Ponting not out	8
Extras (b 2, lb 1, nb 1)	4
Total (4 wkts, 37 overs)	67

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-10, 3-12, 4-44.

BOWLING: Donald 12-5-14-3; Pollock 7-2-16-1; Symcox 16-6-28-0; McMillan 2-0-6-0.

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings

A M Bacher c Healy b Kasprowicz	3
G Kirsten c Healy b M E Waugh	83
J H Kallis c Healy b McGrath	15
D J Cullinan run out	5
*W J Cronje c Blewett b Warne	0
B M McMillan c Healy b Kasprowicz	48
S M Pollock lbw b Warne	7
†D J Richardson lbw b M E Waugh	1
L Klusener lbw b Warne	11
P L Symcox b Kasprowicz	4
A A Donald not out	0
Extras (lb 2, w 1, nb 6)	9
Total (108.5 overs)	186

Fall of wickets: 1-28, 2-62, 3-75, 4-76, 5-138, 6-155, 7-158, 8-182, 9-182.

BOWLING: McGrath 17-9-20-1; Reiffel 14-5-32-0; Kasprowicz 13.5-3-28-3; Warne 42-15-64-3; M E Waugh 18-8-28-2, S R Waugh 2-0-12-0.

Umpires: S A Bucknor (West Indies) and S G Randall (Australia).

Match referee: R Mendigalle (Sri Lanka).

England players turn their backs on the final

FROM THRASY PETROPOULOS IN CALCUTTA

IN THE wake of their semi-final defeat by New Zealand on Friday, more than half of the England women's World Cup squad has returned home early. The prospect of watching two other countries compete in the final at Eden Gardens was too much to bear.

That honour falls today to Australia and New Zealand, the two most disciplined and athletic teams in this competition. Australia are the overwhelming favourites, having become the standard-bearers and redefined the levels of fitness and professionalism in the women's game.

The finalists regularly compete for the Rosebowl Trophy, a one-day international tournament, with Australia having a firm edge. Australia won the series 2-1 at home last month and, earlier in the year, won 4-1 in New Zealand.

Belinda Clark, the Australia captain, hit 142 in a one-day international against New Zealand last February and, against Denmark in this tournament, the 27-year-old became the first cricketer of either sex to score a double-century in a one-day international: 229 not out from 157 balls.

However, Clark is taking nothing for granted: "We have played against New Zealand more than any other team and have been successful against them recently, but each time they have won matches and we have never played [them] in India before. I'm told to expect a crowd of between 60,000 and 80,000, but I would find that a little surprising. Then again, this is India and anything is possible."

The most fascinating aspect of the final will be the tactics Australia employ to counteract the strength of New Zealand's opening batting pair, Debbie Hockley and Emily Drumm. Against England and South Africa, Australia started with two slips, a gully and a short leg. It was a ploy designed to intimidate and with Cathryn Fitzpatrick, the fast bowler, tearing in, England surrendered meekly.

Fitzpatrick apart, there is little to fear in Australia's bowling line-up. New Zealand are unlikely to be troubled by the posturing that forms the backbone of Australia's game plan.

New Zealand will look back to the World Cup of 1993, when they beat Australia by ten wickets on their way to the final. The evidence of this World Cup, however, would suggest that Australia will become world champions for the fourth time in five attempts.

AUSTRALIA (probable): *B Clark, †J Price, K Rolton, M Goszko, M Jones, O Magno, J Broadbent, C Mason, C Fitzpatrick, B Culver, A Fahey

NEW ZEALAND (probable): *M Lewis, †R Rolls, B Hockley, E Drumm, S Fruin, K Withers, K Rimel, C Nicholson, S McLaughlin, C Campbell, K Brown.

De Silva takes lead in one-day victory

SRI Lanka beat India comfortably by five wickets in Margao yesterday to ensure that the three-match one-day international series was drawn 1-1. The second match in the series was abandoned.

The limited-overs world champions were set a modest target of 229 in 50 overs and completed the win with ten balls to spare, thanks mainly to an innings of 82 not out from Aravinda de Silva.

His excellent innings compensated for the early departure of Sanath Jayasuriya, who hit four boundaries in the first over from Debashish Mohanty, the India medium-pace bowler, but was dismissed by him in his next over.

De Silva was assisted by Arjuna Ranatunga and Romesh Kaluwitharna, who batted competently to take their side to victory.

In their innings, India failed to capitalize on half-centuries by Sourav Ganguly and Ajay Jadeja, the openers, and were restricted to 228 for six. The middle order collapsed after Ganguly and Jadeja put on 134 runs for the first wicket. Muralitharan, the off spinner, was the most successful Sri Lanka bowler with figures of three for 53.

Scoreboard, page 36

Teenagers face an uphill task

FROM JOHN STERN IN FOCHVILLE

FOUR-DAY cricket is still proving an uncompromising master for the England Under-19 side, who were outplayed again by South Africa on the second day of the second international match and trail the home side by 429 runs with six first-innings wickets in hand.

To reach 300 in three-day or four-day matches and appearing unlikely to bowl out a team of quality, the touring side face another salvage operation today to avoid the follow-on, as was the case in the first international at Newlands. South Africa Under-19, who declared in the middle of the afternoon on 506 for nine, have now scored 1,010 runs for 17 wickets in two innings against England on this NatWest-sponsored tour and it seems that the harsh lessons from Cape Town have not yet been digested.

England's cause was not helped yesterday morning by a toe injury to Paul Franks that restricted his contribution to a further five overs. Much was expected from the three England spinners on a wicket that offering them some encouragement, but only Graeme Swann, who took four for 90 from 42 overs, showed anything like the control necessary at this level. Chris Schofield, the leg spinner, has had another disappointing match, struggling with his length in particular, and Jonathan Powell, the Essex off spinner, has been below par.

The mainstay of the South Africa innings was Morne van Wyk, who batted superbly in a chanceless innings of 188, which included 29 fours and one six. Despite being 120 not out overnight, he resisted the temptation to become over-zealous in his shot-making. However, once secure again, he played a full range of attacking shots, including a reverse sweep for four off Powell. Gulam Bodi enjoyed the freedom of coming in at 358 for seven and hit ten fours and a six in his 69.

The England innings began dreadfully, with Key pulling Creed to mid-on at the end of the second over, and their plight worsened when Peters followed an away-swinger from the same bowler and was caught at the wicket. Hopes that Owais Shah, the captain, would add a helping of experience and class in the middle order ended when he was bowled by Samsodeen for 13. Gough, the Durham batsman whose four-hour innings helped to save the first international, batted with customary solidity until surprisingly judged leg-before to Rudolph, the leg spinner, off the first ball of the last over of the day.

Scoreboard, page 36

SAILING

Exile holds edge in head-to-head duel

EXILE, the Hong Kong maxi, and *Brindabella*, the favourite from Australia, fought a duel for line honours in the Sydney-Hobart race yesterday, with the finish later today expected to be the closest in years.

By late last night, the 66ft *Exile* was two nautical miles ahead of her larger competitor in what has become a two-boat race after rough seas and high winds forced several contenders out of the 630-nautical mile classic.

After successfully crossing the treacherous Bass Strait, the two boats began their charge down the east coast of Tasmania ahead of a sprint up the Derwent River.

Brindabella is owned and skippered by George Snow, who is determined to be first across the line after twice finishing second. However, the smaller *Exile*, skippered by Warwick Miller, was hanging on to the lead in the race for overall victory on handicap. In third place was *Ragamuffin*, the Sydney 50-footer, which was also strongly placed on the handicap ratings.

A total of 13 yachts have retired from the race and the Swedish maxi, *Nicorette*, has rejoined after a stopover to effect some running repairs. *Nicorette*, which was narrowly beaten by *Brindabella* in a thrilling tacking duel out of the Sydney heads on Friday, had been strongly fancied to be among the first competitors to arrive in Hobart.

Ludde Ingvall, the skipper of *Nicorette*, stayed on land to receive medical treatment for a severe abscess below a tooth.



Brindabella is struck by a big wave in the race to Hobart

Green embarks on voyage to match the world's best

Edward Gorman on the lofty ambitions of a young sailor plotting to make his mark on the professional circuit

There is a touch of youthful bravado — some might call it arrogance — in the lively enthusiasm of Andy Green, but in an aspiring match racer, arguably the most demanding form of competitive sailing, you would be worried if that quality was missing.

Looking into the future at the genesis of what he hopes will be a successful professional career on the international circuit, Green is not afraid to share his ambition to scale the heights to the very pinnacle of the sport.

Having just completed a remarkable year, which saw his world ranking rise from a lowly No 219 to No 39, Green has now set himself a target of getting into the top 20 by the end of 1998. "Moving up into the top 20 is going to be significantly more difficult than going from 200 to 40," he said, "but by the end of '98, I intend to be in a position for people who are putting together British America's Cup campaigns to say 'we could ignore him but we must have pretty good reasons to'."

In stating those ambitions, Green is not only sending a very public message to Lawrie Smith, who is likely to lead the on-the-water side of a British America's Cup challenge in 2000, should one materialise, but he is also giving notice to potential rivals such as Andy Beadsworth and Chris Law that he means business.

Green, 23, finally made up his mind to give up his job at a London advertising agency in October, having just won the $10,000 Omega Achievement Award in recognition of his meteoric climb up the ratings ladder.

Perhaps yet to taste the challenge of overcoming real failure, all you get from Green now is the buzz of the sport. "The more I move on in the game, the more I find the mental stimulation incredibly challenging. Sailing is a brain sport. It's so cerebral. You never get the same conditions."

> 'Sailing is so cerebral. The more I move on, the more I find it challenging'

After sailing in Squibs on the Blackwater Estuary in Essex with his father, Green, who was educated at Charterhouse, graduated to Optimists and joined the national junior squad, where he was coached by Jim Saltonstall. Crewing on big boats, International 14s, and on Ultras followed, as Green mastered the art of helming to win on the competitive university team racing circuit while studying for a degree at Southampton.

Three years ago, he took his first steps in match racing when, with an all-student crew, he reached the knockout stages of the BT national match racing championships, where he was beaten by Adrian Stead.

Last year, he returned to the event and finished third, after being beaten by Ian Williams in a thrilling single race decider at Weymouth. It was a performance that earned him an invitation to the Lymington Cup, where Green, sailing with Mark Heeley, Mark Turner and David Munge, he finished eighth in a field of high quality.

At the subsequent Knickerbocker Cup in New York, Green was eliminated by Murray Jones, leaving the young Englishman regretting a key error in the last race. "It was a $4,000 mistake, one of the most elementary and soul-destroying mistakes, but learning to lose is learning to win in match racing and I learnt a lot," he said.

In the Bermuda Gold Cup, Green again impressed, reaching the knockout stages.

In his first year as a professional, Green is aiming to compete in up to nine grade 1 and grade 2 events with a crew including Mark Turner and Ian Lovering. "My absolute focus is to match race," he said, "but if I am not making enough money out of it and not enjoying it, I won't do it."

BASKETBALL

Newcastle shoot down leaders in overtime

BY NICHOLAS HARLING

WHAT promised to be a routine night's work for Birmingham Bullets on Saturday turned into an unsuccessful marathon session that ruined the return of Tony Dorsey.

Nobody was better equipped than the man from Atlanta to test the repairs to the backboard, damaged in a warm-up, that caused a 63-minute delay to proceedings in the National Indoor Arena — but no opponents are more dangerous on their travels than Newcastle Eagles, whose 89-87 win in overtime ensured that the Budweiser League title race is far from over.

"We always play well on the road," Peter Scantlebury, the Newcastle captain, said. "We're lackadaisical at home, but don't ask me why. Our home form is killing us."

Wearing goggles to protect the bruised right retina that had kept him out three weeks, Dorsey looked rusty at first and his shots fell short, but as soon as he decided to dispense with the goggles, he connected with three flying dunks before half-time. The American finished with 31 points, but his hefty contribution was not quite enough.

"We had difficulty executing and it took us far too many possessions to figure out why they were taking us out of our rhythm," Mike Finger, the Birmingham coach, said. "The Eagles were awfully physical and it was difficult for us to get any defensive rebounds. We were pushed around, but if that's the way the game is going, we have got to adjust."

Dorsey was never prepared to concede ground. Neither, for that matter, were H. L. Coleman nor Chris Haslam, but, in Mark Boyd, Chris Fite, Carl Miller and Scott Wilke, Newcastle had players who could bite back. In the excellent Lyon McGee, who scored 25 points, they had a player in the back-court who could stay calm in a crisis.

McGee and Rob Phelps were vital members of the two zonal defences employed by Craig Lynch, the Eagles' coach, designed to contain Nigel Lloyd, which largely worked, despite the Barbadian's 22 points for the Bullets. "We were smart, aggressive and organised, Lynch said. "We made a bunch of mistakes, but you could see why we're the best defensive team in the League right now."

Helped by two three-pointers from Lloyd, Birmingham led 70-63 and the game looked over, but when Lloyd gave the ball away, overtime was forced by Fite's second three-pointer for the Eagles. Although Fite then proceeded to miss two free throws, McGee sank four shots from the line over the final 24 seconds to render meaningless Lloyd's fifth three-pointer.

The pressure on the Bullets and London Towers, the joint-leaders, was maintained by the Leopards on Boxing Day. In a high-scoring game at the Granby Halls, the champions overcame Leicester Riders 122-108 to climb to third.

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Who said what in 1997: the pick of the sporting quotes of the year, assembled by **Simon Wilde**

'It's not nice when you go into a supermarket and the woman at the till is thinking, 'dodgy keeper'. '

— David James



☐ He looked like a pint of Guinness running around in the second half. **Paul Gascoigne** *on Paul Ince as England qualified in Rome for the World Cup finals*

☐ Ewe'll never bleat anyone again. **Sun** *headline after England's cricketers, en route to New Zealand, lost one-day series in Zimbabwe 3-0*

☐ They make from a little mosquito a big elephant.
Ruud Gullit, *Chelsea manager, on the British media*

☐ In 1996-97 the national team reached a point where even the good days were bad. At the World Cup the England squad resembled a bad-tempered grandmother attending a teenage rave.
Matthew Engel, *Editor of* Wisden, *on the state of English cricket*

☐ I disagree with everything that *Wisden* said.
Michael Atherton, *England captain*

☐ Where's the nearest classical record shop? I need some soothing music.
Geoff Marsh, *Australia's coach, after first day of Test series at Edgbaston: Australia 118, England 200 for 3. England won the match*

☐ It was a festival of bad passing. In fact, United were more dangerous when we had the ball than when they had it.
Gullit's *assessment of Chelsea's Charity Shield match against Manchester United*

☐ *We couldn't pass water.*
Geoff Chapple, *Woking manager, on his out-of-touch charges*

☐ I'm convinced that a big-time manager will actually top himself soon.
Professor **Tom Cannon**, *stress counsellor*

☐ I can't win. Every game I play now I get hammered. Too fat, too thin; not beating five players, should beat five players. It's the same old stories.
Paul Gascoigne *on his treatment by the media*

☐ Upon my little boy's head, I swear I never said that English players are too knackered, overweight and too drunk.
Fabrizio Ravanelli, *of Middlesbrough, issues another denial*



☐ Form is like a bird that passes by. Sometimes you have it around you all the time but sometimes it just flies away.
Gullit

☐ He's just another flash football star, a flash boy racer with too much money and not enough brains. It's boys like him that keep me in a job.
Kim Wright, *car repair mechanic, on Georgi Kinkladze, of Manchester City, who wrote off his Ferrari in a motorway accident*

☐ I would love to take David Stern as my prisoner, strip him of all his clothes, rub lipstick and make-up over him and sing to him. It would probably be my last act as an NBA player. But it would be worth it.
Dennis Rodman, *the Chicago Bulls basketball player, on the NBA commissioner*

☐ We must have had 99 per cent of the game. It was the other 3 per cent that cost us the match.
Gullit *after Chelsea's Premiership defeat by Coventry City*

☐ God gave Gascoigne so much football talent that he took his brain out at the same time to equalise it a bit.
Tony Banks, *Minister of Sport*

☐ It's true. Gazza said he was taking his wallet out on the pitch with him. I didn't understand what he was talking about until he showed me the paper.
Marco Negri, *of Rangers, on a report that the Italian's mother said he would have been either footballer or thief*

☐ I regret we weren't on a higher floor.
Charles Barkley, *Houston Rockets basketball player, responding to the suggestion that he might regret throwing a man through a window during a bar-room brawl*

☐ It really was unbelievable. I thought it was Rory Bremner winding me up.
Tony Banks *on being asked by Tony Blair to join his Government*

☐ *Rugby union is a beast's game played by gentlemen, soccer is a gentlemen's game played by beasts. American football is a beast's game played by beasts and rugby league is a beast's game played by demons.*
Robbie Paul, *captain of Bradford Bulls rugby league team, talks beasts*

☐ Here comes the Messiah.
Will Carling, *the former England rugby union captain, welcomes the recalled Rob Andrew to the team's hotel*

☐ *Oh why don't you take your bra off.*
Adam Hollioake *responds to Shane Warne's leg-before appeal during the Trent Bridge Test match*

☐ He has no experience of English football — he's come from Japan — and now he is telling everyone how to organise our football. Unless you have been in the situation and had the experience, then he should keep his mouth shut — firmly shut.
Alex Ferguson, *Manchester United manager, incensed by the contention of Arsène Wenger, his Arsenal counterpart, that it would be "ridiculous" to extend the season*

☐ They (HBO) are putting too much into a man who is not known . . . people have thrown money at him to fight tuna fishes. The first round I'm going straight for that mouth.
Kevin Kelley *before his world title bout with Prince Naseem Hamed in New York*

☐ He could come out with an axe and he wouldn't get sent off.
Phil Lowe, *Great Britain's rugby league manager, on Gorden Tallis after the Australia player escaped dismissal for three high tackles at Old Trafford*

☐ We would prefer not to play Pontypridd at all. They are semi-civilised animals.
Laurent Seigne, *the Brive coach, unable to forget the notorious Heineken European Cup game between the sides*

☐ Dominic Cork is a show-pony, a real prima donna. He may have talent but he has an attitude problem.
Geoff Boycott

☐ *The only fellow I've met who fell in love with himself at a young age and has remained faithful ever since.*
Dennis Lillee, *former Australia fast bowler, on Boycott*

☐ That little man? He can't stop the Ryder Cup. He's like a machine-gunner shooting in all directions. He is trying to be a hero for a week. We would be out of our minds to change the decision.
Severiano Ballesteros, *Europe's Ryder Cup captain, on the attempt by Miguel Angel Martin to go to court to secure a place in the team*

☐ I'm here for the week. I'm a member of the team. I'm even in the next room to Seve.
Martin *at Valderrama after apparently patching up his differences with the team*

☐ If I stayed, all I'd get would be to see my picture in the paper and be on TV and I'm not interested in that. I think that the best thing for the team is if I go home.
Martin, *the next day*

☐ Someone had to do it. So it might as well have been me.
Jeremy Guscott *on the dropped goal that sealed the British Lions' victory in the series against South Africa*

☐ I'd give all the champagne I've ever drunk to have played alongside him in a big European match at Old Trafford.
George Best *on the retiring Eric Cantona*

☐ Aye laddie, you'll no turn this place intae a pitch and putt.
Troon spectator, *after Tiger Woods had put his opening tee shot in Open championship practice into the rough*

☐ This man has been a disgrace to the game. You cannot really print what I think of him.
Richard Saunders, *former Football League linesman born with stunted arms, gives his opinion of Ian Wright, who taunted him in 1993*

☐ I wish it was going to someone else. I don't have a very high opinion of Ian Wright.
Joan Bastin, *widow of Cliff, shortly before Wright broke her husband's Arsenal goalscoring record*



☐ Go back to the pavilion and deflate yourself, you balloon.
Darryl Cullinan *advises his old enemy, the circumferentially challenged Shane Warne, what to do next after he had taken Warne's wicket in a one-day match in Sydney*

☐ *A lot of people who don't know me, hate me, and I just don't want to be disliked any more.*
Ian Wright

☐ *He's got a couple of nicks on the ears and he wants to stop fighting. But I've only got one eye. Look at me. I've got to go home to my kids and they'll be scared of me.*
Mike Tyson *defends his decision to bite Evander Holyfield's ear during their world heavyweight title rematch*

☐ It's an easy way to get out of the fight, the foul, because you know you're going to get disqualified instead of fighting through. That shows no courage whatsoever.
The reaction of **Holyfield**, *the injured party*



☐ He is a few french fries short of a Happy Meal. His mind goes on vacation and leaves his mouth in charge.
David Feherty *on fellow golfer Colin Montgomerie*

☐ Tyson was despicable. He was abominable and he behaved like a spoilt child. He was totally malicious.
Barry McGuigan, *president of the Professional Boxers' Association*

☐ I apologise to the world, my family and the Nevada State Athletic Commission. I cannot tell why I acted like I did. I just snapped.
A penitent **Tyson** *tries to make amends*

☐ I don't blame Tyson. I'd have done the same if I thought I'd get away with it.
Lloyd Honeyghan, *Britain's former world welterweight champion*

☐ He butted me a few times but I got him back with a few bites of my own.
Ross Hale, *Bristol light-welterweight, after beating Leigh Wicks*

☐ Michael showed his true colours and got what he deserved . . . I didn't think he would do anything like taking Jacques off, because it would destroy his reputation . . . At least he is consistent.
Damon Hill *on Michael Schumacher's unsuccessful attempt to deny Jacques Villeneuve the Formula One world championship at Jerez*

☐ He played for high stakes and lost everything: the world championship and his reputation for fair play.
Bild, German newspaper

☐ I am human and, unfortunately, make mistakes. I do not make many, but this was a big one and I will learn from it. I see no reason to apologise.
Schumacher

☐ I left my serve in the toilet, my forehand in my room and my backhand in Geneva.
Mats Wilander, *Swiss tennis player, on his first-round performance in the Croatian indoor tournament. He won.*

☐ My wife was a bit worried about it, but my mum is the worst. She thought I'd been in a rugby brawl or committed a crime against the state. It was nothing more than handbags at ten paces.
Mark Ilott, *of Essex, after his shoving match with Robert Croft, of Glamorgan, in the NatWest Trophy semi-final*

☐ I've stopped touching wood. I got splinters and was out for three games.
David Hirst, *of Southampton, on his tendency to get injured*

☐ I realised in 1991, other people realised in 1987. It's different now. I don't have to wake up wondering who I've offended the night before.
Barclay Howard, *the amateur golfer who shot one under par in his first Open, reflecting on his former alcoholism*

☐ A lot of people thought I was more likely to end up on a park bench than in Europe.
Steve Claridge, *who scored the winning goal for Leicester City in the Coca-Cola Cup final, admits to a wayward past*

☐ I expect our cricketers to die for England. When they wear those three lions on their chests it should be the greatest honour of their lives. If there is a laissez-faire attitude then we have a problem.
Lord MacLaurin, *England Cricket Board chairman*

☐ The way we look at it down here is like this. When we're playing for Glamorgan, in the county championship we're representing our country, Wales. When we have the honour of being chosen for a Test match for England it's like being picked for the British Lions.
Robert Croft, *of Glamorgan and England, sums up where his loyalties lie*

☐ Racism is a thing of the past. We're in international football. I'm an established striker and I should not have to listen to it from my own people, especially a manager I play for.
Nathan Blake *refuses to accept an apology after alleged racist comments by Bobby Gould, the Wales manager*

☐ Perhaps Nathan Blake has finer feelings than other people.
Gould

☐ It was total disrespect on England's part — all we asked is for some respect towards our culture. That kind of behaviour has no place on the football field.
John Hart, *the New Zealand rugby union coach, criticises England's players for their "disrespectful" attitude towards the Haka*

☐ If we draw Iran, we'll go to Fifa and ask them for an Iraqi referee and watch the fun.
Alan Rothenberg, *head of the US Soccer Federation, before the World Cup finals draw. They did draw Iran*

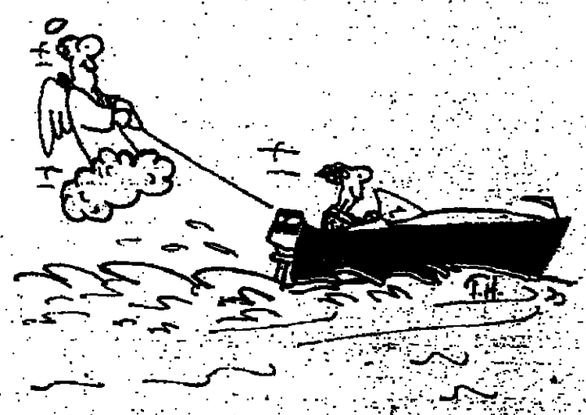
☐ The Italians must have choked on their spaghetti when they heard the result.
Paul Ince *after England won in Poland during World Cup qualifying*

☐ We let you down again. We are overwhelmed by remorse and self-scolding . . . we want to say a sincere sorry to everyone.
China football team's *written apology to supporters for their failure to qualify*

☐ He (Seve) was not a captain, he was like a father for us. We put our hands on the clubs but he was the one who played the shots.
Ignacio Garrido, *after completing his first — and successful — Ryder Cup*

☐ We played with our hearts and I think that's why we won.
Ballesteros

☐ I needed to feel I had the support of the team, which I felt I had. I needed to think we had a reasonable chance of success in the West Indies — and I do.
Michael Atherton *stops prevaricating and opts to stay on as England captain*



☐ Waiting for God is boring, so I thought I would be better off back behind the wheel.
Fiona, Countess of Arran, *on her decision to return to powerboat racing at the age of 79*

☐ *I am absolutely furious at the decision but I would not like to see the game stopped and started all the time because of waiting to see videos of incidents.*
O'Neill *thinks further about the Reed incident*

☐ Get your chequebook out or get out.
Everton supporter's *request to Peter Johnson, the club's chairman, after another home defeat*

☐ Alan Sugar was once quoted as saying he would like to make Spurs the Manchester United of the South. But he has turned us into the Manchester City of the South.
Yvonne Dixon, *Tottenham supporter, in a letter to* The Sun

☐ I got very used to seeing my name at the top of the list or very near it. Having to scroll down to page two is all new to me. It saps a bit of your oomph.
Damon Hill, *fading world champion*

☐ Can you ever begin to tell us how sad it feels? — BBC television interviewer. No, because I feel very happy.
Michael Stich *on retiring from tennis*

☐ I just don't know what the world's coming to — fighters don't want to get beaten up any more.
Glenn McCrory *on Henry Akinwande's lack of fighting spirit against Lennox Lewis*

☐ The old petrol light has been flashing for about five years and now I know the tank is empty.
Graham Gooch *reheats his favourite metaphor upon his retirement*

☐ Fewer girls, more technology.
Jody Scheckter *on the changes in Formula One since he won the world title in 1979*



☐ The kids we had on the line against Middlesbrough last week were so young they were giving out jelly babies between them.
Gerry Francis, *Tottenham manager, bemoans injury problems*

هكذا من الأصل

Continent of untapped potential searching for leadership


Sorenstam: in the money

Patricia Davies reflects on a European tour year that was long on individual accomplishment but short on direction

The diminutive Alison Nicholas, the Europe No 1 for the first time, became the US Women's Open champion, the amazing Annika Sorenstam was No 1 on the American money list, with six wins and well over a million dollars, and the inimitable Laura Davies became the first woman professional to win the same tournament four times in succession.

These were the outstanding achievements of the European women golfers in 1997, but it did not, by any means, end there. Lisa Hackney, of England, was rookie of the year on the Ladies' Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Tour in the United States — one of five Europeans in the top 20 — Helen Alfredsson, of Sweden, fought back from injury to win the McDonald's WPGA Championship of Europe at Gleneagles and Marie-Laure de Lorenzi, of France, maintained her high standards, despite being based solely in Europe.

The leading European women now rank alongside the best in the world — yet there is nothing but gloom and despondency surrounding the women's game in Europe. As individuals shine, the tour stumbles along, shedding sponsors in alarming fashion. The Hennessy Cup, one of its most precious events, has been discontinued after 13 years and American Express, the tour's overall sponsor, pulled out at the end of the season after three years. To paraphrase Lady Bracknell: "To lose one big sponsor may be regarded as a misfortune; to lose two looks like carelessness."

There is no doubt that running a tour is not an easy business, but the harsh truth is that the Women Professional Golfers' European Tour has been badly led — if, indeed, it has been led at all. There has been a lack of direction and no sign of drive and dynamism from the top, but plenty of bleating about how difficult it is to obtain sponsorship, how only American firms understand the power of women as consumers and how there is no money beyond the M25.

Terry Coates, who ends five years as executive director of the tour in February, will leave behind a band of players who are disgruntled and demoralised and who feel undervalued and underused.

Thus far, there is no sign of a 1998 schedule, but the 1997 draft schedule, issued last December, boasted 20 individual tournaments — and the warning "subject to change". Subsequent schedules, dated March, April and June, carried the same proviso and none of them matched the reality, which was 14 individual events (three of them featuring limited fields) and one team event, a match in Portugal against the European Seniors Tour for the Praia D'El Rey European Cup. So much for Coates's promise that nothing would appear on the schedule unless it was signed, sealed and solid. Remember, too, that the seniors had a calendar of 17 individual events this year, so there clearly are sponsors out there somewhere.

The women have been sustained by a core of big-money events, though their big five of the Hennessy Cup, the Evian Masters (both with restricted fields), the Weetabix Women's British Open (run by the Ladies' Golf Union and the International Management Group), the McDonald's (run by the Professional Golfers' Association) and the Compaq Open have now been reduced to four.

They provide a nucleus to build on — Davies also has plans for another big event, bearing her name — and Coates's successor, whoever he or she may be, must nurture them, without neglecting more modest tournaments.

American Express, Marks & Spencer and Marriott — the hotel company, which talked about "a long-term commitment to women's golf" before the Solheim Cup at St Pierre but has yet to fulfil that commitment — are all still in golf to a greater or lesser extent, but no longer prominent on the women's scene in Europe. Were they — and Hennessy — as well looked after as they should have been? All sponsors need tender, loving, constant care. So do players. They all want to feel that they matter.

They also want the tour to succeed and, with the proper leadership, it can. The quality of genius would be welcome and the ideal tour boss would combine the skills of Alex Ferguson, Don King, Richard Branson and Mother Teresa. None ever has, although Charlie Mechem, the immediate past commissioner of the LPGA, came close.

In the absence of genius, golfing and business nous, a sense of purpose, enthusiasm, hard work and an ability to communicate would do nicely, combined with the resilience to try, try and try again.


Nicholas: European No 1

SKIING

Hat-trick of of wins puts Nowen in charge

YLVA NOWEN, of Sweden, continued her domination of the World Cup slalom events with her third successive victory on Sunday. The 27-year-old, who has won three of the four slaloms this season and finished second in the other, had a total time of 1min 37.33sec in Lienz, Austria.

Kristina Koznick, of the United States, who was leading after the first run, was second in 1min 37.43sec on the Hochstein piste — her first podium finish in a World Cup event. Deborah Compagnoni, of Italy, who has won all of the giant slaloms so far this season, moved up from ninth place after the first leg to finish third in 1min 37.52sec.

Nowen, a psychology student who had not had a rostrum finish before this winter, had no explanation for her second success in Lienz in 24 hours. "I don't know how I did it again today. Yesterday, I had an explanation; today, I don't," she said. "I was tired between runs, but I kept on reminding myself 'only one more run before I can take a break'."

She extended her already commanding lead in the slalom standings to 380 points. "I am a little bit scared about what is happening. I can't start thinking I am the best, I can continue winning if I manage to remain concentrated, calm and focused. I need a few days off to digest it all."

Urska Hrovat, of Slovenia, was fourth with Katja Seizinger, of Germany, the overall World Cup standings leader, fifth.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Jacksonville fall prey to Denver's thirst for revenge

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE Denver Broncos had spent a year waiting to turn the tables on the Jacksonville Jaguars and they savoured their moment of revenge when they scored an emphatic victory in their National Football League (NFL) wild-card play-off game.

Twelve months ago, the Broncos headed into the play-offs as strong favourites to reach the Super Bowl, only for the Jaguars to score an unexpected triumph at Mile High Stadium and reach the American Football Conference (AFC) championship game. There was a moment when a repeat looked likely on Saturday night as Jacksonville, 21-0 down four minutes into the second quarter, rallied to be only 21-17 adrift. But the Broncos pulled away again, going on to win 42-17.

"I don't think getting even was the idea," Mike Shanahan, the Denver coach, said. "Not losing again was the focus."

Nevertheless, John Elway, the Broncos' quarterback, revealed the desire that had motivated his team. "I'm happy we beat them — I can't forget what happened last year," Elway said. "We needed to win the first game and get some play-off momentum. It gets the monkey off our back."

Elway relied on a powerful ground game in windy conditions to give Denver their first wild-card play-off win in four attempts. They will now play either the Kansas City Chiefs or the Pittsburgh Steelers in an AFC divisional play-off next weekend.

The crucial moment came when the Jaguars, having pulled back to within four points, had the ball on the Denver 16-yard line. Mark Brunell, the quarterback, fumbled the snap and Allen Aldridge, the Denver linebacker, recovered. Jacksonville could not score again.

"I was just a little late in getting in there," Brunell, who

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blamed crowd noise for his mistake, said. "Certainly, we had a lot of momentum going our way at that point and the fumble really hurt us."

Terrell Davis, who ran for 184 yards and scored two touchdowns before succumbing to a rib injury in the third quarter, was the Broncos' most potent weapon. Derek Loville, his replacement, added 103 yards and two fourth-quarter scores.

Earlier, in one of the NFL's most remarkable play-off rallies, the Minnesota Vikings scored ten points in the last 90 seconds to beat the New York Giants 23-22. Randall Cunningham led Minnesota back from a 16-point half-time deficit to a stunning victory, decided by Eddie Murray's 24-yard field goal with ten seconds remaining.

"We never gave up," Dennis Green, the Minnesota coach, who was celebrating his first play-off win in six attempts, said. "We knew we could win." No team had come back to win from a deficit of more than two touchdowns in a National Football Conference play-off game since Dallas in 1972.

Cunningham's late 30-yard touchdown pass to Jake Reed had pulled the Vikings to only 22-20 down and set the stage for the key play of the game. Needing to retain possession to have a hope of winning, Minnesota tried an on-side kick. Chris Calloway could have sealed victory for the Giants by holding on to the ball, but he fumbled and Chris Walsh recovered for Minnesota to give the Vikings possession again. Cunningham connected with Cris Carter on a 20-yard pass and Robert Smith ran 16 yards to the Giants' five-yard line, setting the stage for Murray's winning field goal.

The Vikings had lost five games in a row before beating Indianapolis in their final regular-season game to reach the play-offs for the fifth time in six years. They will now travel to play the San Francisco 49ers.

JOE MAHONEY


Zimmerman's block on Figures allows Elway to scramble clear for the Broncos

ICE HOCKEY

Cup offers players yet more of the same

BY NORMAN DE MESQUITA

THE Express Cup competition, foisted on Superleague clubs at short notice, appears to be resented by the players and shunned by the public.

Last season, there were complaints that, with only eight teams, the Superleague was too repetitive. This year, it was hoped to include some opposition from Europe to add variety, but no teams were available, so this extra competition has brought an additional round of home and away fixtures against the same opponents. Cardiff Devils and Manchester Storm have been required to play nine games in less than three weeks and it is hardly suprising players are showing signs of tiredness.

The Ayr Scottish Eagles seemed to be taking it seriously enough and their 3-2 win over Newcastle Cobras on Saturday was their seventh success in as many fixtures, but Newcastle, rooted to the foot of the Superleague table, have yet to gain a point in the Cup. Jamie Steer, Jeff Hoad and Scott Young had given the Eagles a 3-0 lead before Chris Norton and Rob Trumbley replied.

Manchester welcomed back their captain, Dave Morrison, after a long absence through injury and he scored two goals in their 10-2 romp over Bracknell Bees. Nottingham Panthers followed their 3-2 away win over Sheffield Steelers on Boxing Day with a 5-4 home success over Basingstoke Bison on Saturday.

Morrin's school makes all the running

David Powell meets a teacher honoured for his contribution to athletics coaching after being converted to the sport by chance

John Morrin has played water polo for England, captained England Schools under-19s at rugby union, has never run a cross country race, yet says: "Cross country running is the best team sport in the world."

Fran Cotton, one-time contemporary of Morrin's at Loughborough Colleges, who managed the British Isles rugby tour to South Africa in the summer, may be surprised to hear such a mutinous comment, but the St Malachy's College schoolmaster has had 25 years to think about it. The switch came by accident, though, once made, there was no going back.

Morrin, 49, has just been named the Northern Ireland Institute of Coaching coach of the year for his work in athletics. When he left Loughborough for his first teaching appointment, it was to St Malachy's, Belfast to teach history and PE, with responsibility for water polo and swimming.

Knowing that he would have to wait six weeks before the master coaching those two sports transferred to another school, he offered athletics a helping hand. "I took it over for that six-week period and enjoyed it so much I asked the principal if I could move into that area of extracurricular responsibility, rather than swimming and water polo," Morrin said.

"I never did get to do swimming and water polo. I had never been an athlete and that is what makes it so strange, but in six weeks, in a new sport for me, I found the commitment tremendous and wanted to stay with it."

Knowing nothing about running, Morrin began by calling on his rugby background. "I applied rugby training and learnt by mistakes," he said. "After 25 years, I am probably getting somewhere near it." Nearer than any other school coach in Northern Ireland, undoubtedly.

So many are the athletics trophies at St Malachy's that they probably need the maths master to add them up. One stands out — the boys' distance medley shield from the Penn Relays in Philadelphia last April. The meeting annually attracts upwards of 70,000 spectators and St Malachy's defeated, among others, the United States high school champions, Springfield.

That was the easy part. The difficult bit was getting the shield home. Such is its size that it would not fit into the passenger section on the plane from Heathrow to Belfast. "It had to go up front with the pilot," Morrin said. Gareth Turnbull was largely to blame. In the 1,600 metres, which followed runs of 1,200, 400 and 800 metres, he set a meeting record of 4min 2.6sec. This at an occasion now 103 years old, beating a record held by Marty Liquori, who ran a 3min 52.2sec mile when finishing second to Filbert Bayi's world record 3min 51sec in 1975.

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

It was a season in which Turnbull also won the 1,500 metres bronze medal at the European junior championships. "Gareth will tell you he owes everything to John's coaching," Paddy Turnbull, the athlete's father, said. Colm McLean, another member of the squad, won the European Youth Olympic title in Lisbon.

In 1996, St Malachy's runners — Conor Sweeney, in the under-15s, McLean, in the under-17s, and Turnbull, in the under-20s — achieved an unprecedented sweep of All Ireland 1,500 metres titles. This year, Sweeney won the under-17s and Turnbull and McLean took gold and silver at under-20 level.

In cross country, St Malachy's are the All-Ireland senior schools champions. Not bad for a college that has no grass on site, forcing the squad to travel 30 minutes to a local park for training.

From photographs at St Malachy's, showing the 1902 cross country team through to Mike Bull, a Commonwealth pole vault champion and former pupil, the tradition of athletics speaks for itself. The joke about Bull is that he was the only man seen clearing the wall to get into the Crumlin Road prison. The prison is the school's neighbour, the wall apparently irresistible to the ambitious pole vaulter.

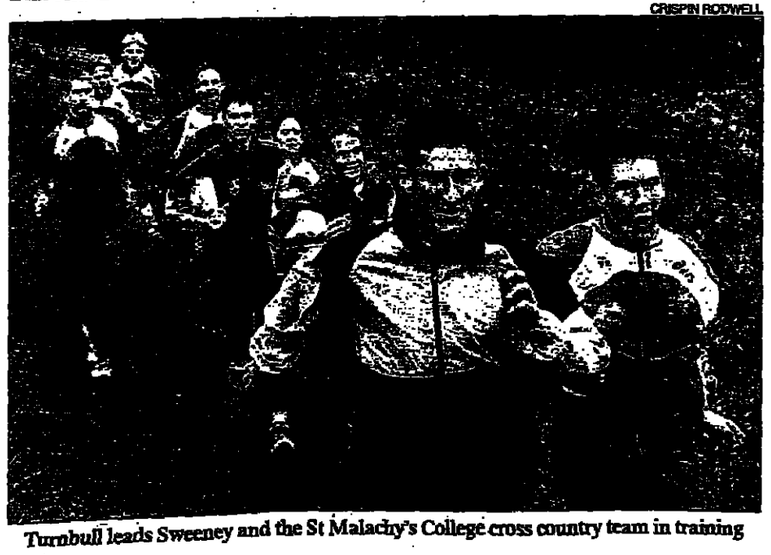
St Malachy's, though, is more than an athlete's school. It is accomplished in basketball, holding six of the seven Ulster titles.

It embraces new sports, too; triathlon is the latest. "The catalyst comes from the pupils," Morrin, now vice principal, said. "If they are interested in a sport, we cater for it. There was no triathlon club locally that I was aware of, so we set up a club in the school." Now the school are Ulster and All-Ireland junior team champions.

Academically and musically, St Malachy's is among the best in Northern Ireland. "I would have thought that, in terms of range of achievement, nobody would touch us," the Reverend Donal McKeown, the college president, said.

"It is easy to be committed when you are winning," Morrin said. Nothing would give him more pleasure than to see Turnbull or McLean make the Irish Olympic team. He promises that, if they do, he will run a cross country race. After all these years.

CRISPIN RODWELL


Turnbull leads Sweeney and the St Malachy's College cross country team in training

HOCKEY

East's winning start ruled out

A DISALLOWED goal, 30 seconds from time, prevented the East from making a winning start on the opening day of the women's under-21 regional tournament at Milton Keynes yesterday. They had to be content with a 1-1 draw against the West.

A powerful strike by Lizzie Aldous was ruled by the umpire to have been struck from outside the circle, denying the champions the chance of claiming a late victory.

"It's very disappointing," Sarah Mann, the East manager, said. "Especially as it was one of the best goals I've seen all season. But if the umpire says it's illegal, then that's the way it is."

Emma Kingstone, of West Witney, shot the West ahead from a switched penalty corner when her effort was deflected past the goalkeeper.

BY CATHY HARRIS

Dominque Tobell, in the sixteenth minute, before the East levelled through the captain, Kerry Moore, who shot home from an acute angle four minutes before half-time.

The West soaked up prolonged pressure after the restart, but with Alison Rendu, their captain and sweeper, prominent in defence, the East failed to break through. Ten minutes from time, the East lost their rhythm after their striker, Sally Tredgett, left the pitch when the ball flew up and hit her on the cheekbone.

Only two teams, the East and the Midlands, have captured the title. The Midlands, winners in 1995-96, made an impressive start yesterday as the Olton and England Under-21 defender, Sally Wright, equalised after Nicola Heaton had put the North ahead in the twelfth minute. The Midlanders went on to dominate play after the break, Louisa Turney making it 2-1 from a 46th-minute penalty corner and Jo Walker scoring with a reverse sweep after rounding the goalkeeper. Eight minutes from time, Turney added her second to complete the scoring, after a good break by Kate Sharland.

Earlier, three second-half goals helped the North to a deserved 4-1 win over the South. Penalty corner goals either side of the interval by Lucy Clark and Ruth Brooke gave the North a 2-0 cushion, with Jo Cox replying for the South in the 48th minute. However, two goals after 60 and 61 minutes by Jenny Worthington and Cher Heckle underlined the North's dominance.

President's men remain supreme

Cheam 3
President's XI 7

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

CHEAM, founded on Boxing Day, 1920 and linked with some of the great names of the past, went down to their usual defeat at the hands of the President's XI on Saturday.

In the 26 years that Tony Bennett has been running this annual festival game — now styled the Dick Hollands' memorial match — his team has lost on only four occasions, the last being in 1984, when the club won 4-3, and has now extended its sequence of victories to 12.

For this year's game, Bennett had put together a telling blend of youth and experience, among the younger element being Tim Johnston, of Oxford University, who set up the chances for two goals with sparkling runs. David Justesen, Phil Newton, David Knapp and John Molloy, the captain, making his eighth appearance in the series, were the rocks on which success was built.

The President's men survived early pressure, when one shot was cleared off the line and another saved by the goalkeeper, James Myers, before Knapp scored from Johnston's pass in the eleventh minute. Cheam replied five minutes later through Glyn Jones.

By half-time, the visitors had established a 3-1 lead with goals by Justesen, from a short corner, and Mike Alcock. Further goals by Molloy, Knapp, from a short corner, and Justesen increased the advantage to 6-1 before, in the closing minutes, Mark Roberts scored for Cheam.

German rounded off a combined raid with the seventh goal for the President's team and Lombard obtained the club's third.

CHEAM: J Kinchington; J Kemp, K Lombard, R Harmer, K Boyce, J White, N Martin, M Roberts, M Flanagan, T Nicolle, G Jones

PRESIDENT'S XI: J Myers (Beeston), C Alcock (Epsom), W Davies (Wimbledon), D Justesen (Surbiton), P Newton (Richmond), J Molloy (Surbiton, captain) W Stephens (Old Cranleighans), D German (Wimbledon), P Chapman (Exeter University), M Alcock (Epsom), D Knapp (Old Cranleighans) Substitute: T Johnston (Oxford University)

Umpires: C Burton and M Mulcock (Southern Counties).

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Play-offs: New York Giants 22 Minnesota 23; Denver 42 Jacksonville 17.
PONTIAC, Michigan: Motor City Bowl: Mississippi 34 Marshall 31.
TUCSON, Arizona: Insight.com Bowl: Arizona 20 New Mexico 14
ATLANTA: Heritage Bowl: Southern University 34 South Carolina State 28.

ATHLETICS

Cross country

ALEXANDRA PALACE: Chingford League (5 miles): 1, P Gibb (Muswell Hill) 27min 39sec; 2, P Branston (Walthamstow) 27:42; 3, D Grover (Sunderland, guest) 27:45; 4, M Fone (Enfield) 28:21. Veterans: Over-45: A Eccles (Orion) 30:45. Over-50: G Wootton (Thurrock guest) 28:53. Over-55: G Harrold (Enfield) 31:42. Over-60: R Higgs (Barnet) 33:30. Teams: 1, Orion 148pts; 2, Muswell Hill 153; 3, Haringey 165. Women: V Parry (Muswell Hill) 35:19. Team: Eton Manor.
CHIGWELL ROW: Ilford Invitation (10.5 miles): 1, G Reynolds (Ilford) 1hr 3min 23sec; 2, M Delea (Ilford) 1:06:47; 3, M Gibbs (Chelmsford) 1:07:50. Veteran: S Fuller (Billericay Striders) 1:13:11. Over-60: D Campbell (Tiptree) 1:17:36. Women: D Sullivan (Havering Mayesbrook) 1:18:45. Teams: 1, The Rest 38; 2, Ilford 56.

Road running

AYR: Turkey Trot (10km): 1, D Gardner (Mizuno) 32min 7sec; 2, W Richardson (Irvine) 32:15; 3, W McTaggert (Ronhill Cambuslang) 32:23. Veteran: A Stewart (Ayr Seaforth) 33:32. Over-50: P Kelly (Ayr Seaforth) 36:33. Women: 1, L Cairns (Kilmarnock) 37:15; 2, P Hart (Giffnock) 38:39; 3, V McIntyre (City of Glasgow) 41:08. Veteran: K McPherson (Ayrodynamic) 41:52. Over-50: J Byng (Irvine) 41:52. (6km) 1, A Richardson (Kilmarnock) 22:30; 2, G McBlair (Troon Tortoises) 23:10; 3, R Aitken (Carnegie) 24:00. Veteran: R Miller (Troon Tortoises) 21:38. Over-50: S Gutch (Carnegie) 25:40. Women: 1, S Gray (Troon Tortoises) 26:38; 2 K Craig (Unattached) 27:29; 3, R Capaldi (Girvan) 28:13. Veteran: F Smith (Unattached) 28:41. Over 50: D Young (Bellahouston) 30:02.
BEDFORD: Open (10 miles): 1, G McDonald (Corby) 55:00; 2, J McMahon (Bedford) 55:07; 3, D Parkin (Birmingham Poxheath) 55:16. Veteran: B Matthews (Unattached) 1:01:34. Over-45: C Lamont (Stopsley Striders) 1hr 1min 40sec. Over-50: J Smith (Corby) 1:00:39. Over-60: C Roome (Metros) 1:03:39. Women: 1, A Whitcombe (Parkside Harrow) 59min 0sec; 2, A Bomil (Vegetarian C and AC) 1hr 6min 35sec; 3, L Hickey (United Trades) 1:11:17.
BICESTER: Andy Reading Memorial (10km): 1, D Walmsley (Bourton Road Runners) 31min 49sec; 2, R Keeney (Aldershot, Farnham and District) 32:02; 3, P Hardwood (Army) 32:06. Veteran: P Revel (Oxford City) 32:35. Over-50: J Exley (Oxford City) 34:02. Over-60: W Brown (Headington) 41:39. Women: 1, D Percival (Medway) 34:08; 2, A Keen (Headington) 38:28; 3, R Schiller (Unattached). Veteran: Over-45: M Swithenby (Milton Keynes) 42:36. Over 55: D Tsakonsanos (Bourton Road Runners) 43:58.
LARNE: Open (5 miles): 1, G Lough (Annadale Striders) 24min 6sec; 2, Ciaran Cavanagh (Annadale Striders) 24:47; 3, G McLernon (Willowfield) 25:06. Teams: 1, Annadale Striders 7; 2, Albertville 37. Veteran: N Cahoon (Albertville) 26:38. Women: 1, P Quinn (Ballymena and Antrim) 29:05; 2, B McAllister (Lisburn) 32:18; 3, D Sharrott (Larne) 34:52.
STOKE-ON-TRENT: Audley (10km): 1, M Roberts (Potteries Marathon) 32:50; 2, A Prophett (City of Stoke) 33:10; 3, R Thompson (Newcastle) 34:10. Teams: 1, Newcastle 14; 2, Trentham Running Club 22. Veteran: D Myatt (Newcastle) 36:09. Team: Potteries Marathon 77. Women: 1, K Porter (Potteries Marathon) 41:30; 2, D Wise (City of Stoke) 42:13; 3, Q Knight-Gregson (Fell Running Association) 44:27.
CLEVEDON: Open (4 miles): 1, I Gillespie (Birchfield) 18:28 (course record); 2, B Noad (Bristol) 18:41; 3, R Whalley (City of Stoke) 19:05. Veteran: N Rose (Bristol) 19:35 (course record). Over-50: M Dowse (Bristol) 22:33. Over-60: H Clayton (Bristol) 23:26. Women: 1, N Gillespie (Birchfield) 21:23 (course record); 2, P Gowing (Bristol) 23:24; 3, D Howard (Westbury) 23:29. Veteran: L Burston (Clevedon) 26:23. Over-50: P Sheppard (South West Road Runners) 30:12.
GLYNEATH: Open (5 miles): 1, D Hiscox (Bridgend) 24.52; 2, R Gardner (Cardiff) 24:58; 3, S Tobin (Swansea) 25:03. Team: Swansea. Veteran: M Rees (Swansea) 25:12. Over-45: D Davies (Neath) 28:20. Over-50: R Fowler (Amman Valley) 30:00. Over-55: A Jeffreys (Swansea) 29:02. Over-60: J Collins (Swansea) 30:52. Over 65: C Davies (Neath) 34.42. Over 70: W Burrows (Aberdare) 55:00. Team: Neath. Women: 1, A Marr (Newport) 29:03; 2, F Gill (Neath) 29:14; 3, A-M Hutchinson (Neath) 30:06. Team: Neath.
POOLE: Round the Lakes (10km): 1, J Phillips (Bournemouth) 31:41; 2, P Drake (Bournemouth) 31:50; 3, D Hurdwell (Bournemouth) 32:04. Team: Bournemouth 6. Veteran: I Ford (Overton) 33:15. Women: 1, C Hunt (New Forest) 35:56; 2, E Steen (Poole) 38:39; 3, C Doe (Poole) 39.13.
PORTHCAWL: High Tide Nutters (10km): 1, P Owens (Bridgend) 30min 59sec; 2, D Hughes (Cornelly Striders) 31:22; 3, D Nolman (Mercury) 31:59. Team: Cornelly Striders. Women: S Lannard (Unattached) 43:03.
STOURBRIDGE (4.6 miles): 1, H Chaplowony (Bromsgrove and Redditch) 23:15 (course record); 2, D Wilde (Walsall) 24:32; 3, A Dukes (Walsall) 24:38. Veteran: K Halliday (Stourbridge) 26:36. Women: B Cardy-Wise (Bromsgrove and Redditch) 27:34; 2, A Murphy (Muswell Hill Runners) 28:04; Veteran: Over-50: J Fradgley (Halesowen) 35:25.
COMBER: Cracker (11.5 miles, pairs of runners): 1, N Carty (North Belfast) and D McGonigle (Newcastle) 1hr 5min 0sec; 2, D Welsh and G Morris (both Willowfield) 1:08:04; 3, G Weir and G Bell (both North Down) 1:08.06. Veteran: R Ewart and H Martin (both Lurgan) 1:07:20. Mixed pairs: J Calvert and S McKittrick (both BARF) 1:30:55. Women: J Bingham and J White (both Olympian) 1:45:15.

Fell running

RAWTENSTALL, Lancashire: The Felldancer Whinberry Naze Dash: Men (4.5miles, 800ft): 1, S Willis (Todmorden) 25min 04sec (course record); 2, B Cole (Horwich) 25:20; 3, D Flatley (Horwich) 25:48; 4, G Schofield (Horwich, M40) 26:19; 5, P Livesey (Rossendale) 26:22; 6, R Hope (Horwich) 26:54. Over-45: J Hope (Achille Ratti) 28:50. Over-50: J Holt (Clayton-le-Moors) 29:04. Team: Horwich 9pts. Women: 1, C Greenwood (Bingley, 25th) 29:35 (course record); 2, M White (Horwich, W35) 35:41; 3, J Leary (Rossendale) 37:55.
AMBLESIDE, Cumbria: Wansfell fell race (3miles, 1,500ft): 1, I Holmes (Bingley) 19:7; 2, G Bland (Borrowdale) 19:27; 3, R Jebb (Bingley) 19:29

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Birmingham Bullets 87 Newcastle Eagles 89 (OT)

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Friday: Indiana 107 Orlando 81; Charlotte 96 Cleveland 88; Miami 88 Detroit 74; Minnesota 116 New Jersey 96, Washington 97 Dallas 95; San Antonio 101 Boston 86; Milwaukee 99 Atlanta 94 (OT); Golden State 81 Denver 69; Seattle 111 Sacramento 95; Phoenix 118 Vancouver 100; LA Lakers 118 LA Clippers 114 (OT). Saturday: Toronto 97 New York 94; Portland 102 Utah 91; Orlando 96 Charlotte 87; New Jersey 112 Milwaukee 104 (2OT); Chicago 97 Atlanta 90; Houston 111 Washington 101; LA Clippers 105 Denver 103; Philadelphia 85 Golden State 78

Eastern Conference

Atlantic division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	18	9	.667	—
Orlando	17	12	.586	2
New York	16	12	.571	2½
New Jersey	15	12	.556	3
Washington	15	15	.500	4½
Boston	13	13	.500	4½
Philadelphia	7	19	.269	10½
Central division				
Chicago	19	9	.679	—
Indiana	18	9	.667	½
Atlanta	19	10	.655	½
Cleveland	17	10	.630	1½
Charlotte	17	11	.607	2
Milwaukee	13	15	.464	6
Detroit	13	16	.448	6½
Toronto	4	24	.143	16

Western Conference

Midwest division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	17	10	.630	—
Utah	17	11	.607	½
Houston	15	10	.600	1
Minnesota	13	14	.481	4
Vancouver	10	18	.357	7½
Dallas	5	23	.179	12½
Denver	2	25	.074	15
Pacific division				
LA Lakers	22	6	.786	—
Seattle	22	6	.786	—
Phoenix	17	8	.680	3½
Portland	16	10	.615	5
Sacramento	10	19	.345	12½
Golden State	7	20	.259	14½
LA Clippers	6	24	.200	17

BOXING

SONGKHLA, Thailand: International Boxing Federation mini-flyweight championship: Z Lepetelo (SA) bt R Dutchboygym (Thai, holder) ko 4th. World Boxing Federation bantamweight championship: F Rakkietgym (Thai, holder) bt V Moss (SA) ko 6th.

CRICKET

Third one-day international match

India v Sri Lanka

MARGAO (India won toss): Sri Lanka beat India by five wickets

INDIA

A Jadeja c Muralitharan b Jayasuriya ... 53
S C Ganguly c Tillekeratne b Muralitharan ... 61
*S R Tendulkar c S de Silva b Muralitharan ... 6
M Azharuddin c and b Muralitharan ... 24
N S Sidhu run out ... 17
R Singh not out ... 19
†N R Mongia c Muralitharan b S de Silva 14
S V Bahutule not out ... 0
Extras (lb 13, w 20, nb 1) ... 34
Total (6wkts, 50 overs) ... 228

J Srinath, R K Chauhan and D Mohanty did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-131, 2-134, 3-152, 4-181, 5-190, 6-223

BOWLING: Vaas 9-0-28-0; S de Silva 8-0-30-1; Dharmasena 10-0-38-0; Muralitharan 10-2-53-3, Jayasuriya 10-0-52-1; A de Silva 3-0-14-0.

SRI LANKA

S T Jayasuriya c Singh b Mohanty ... 17
M S Atapattu c Azharuddin b Mohanty ... 14
R S Mahanama b Bahutule ... 46
P A de Silva not out ... 82
*A Ranatunga c Jadeja b Srinath ... 20
R S Kaluwitharna b Mohanty ... 30
K D P K Dharmasena not out ... 5
Extras (w 13, nb 1, lb 1) ... 15
Total (5wkts, 49.2 overs) ... 229

M Muralitharan, †S K de Silva, W P U J C Vaas and H Tillekeratne did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-51, 3-112, 4-163, 5-220.

BOWLING: Srinath 10-1-26-1, Mohanty 10-0-58-3; Singh 5.2-1-29-0; Bahutule 10-0-46-1; Chauhan 9-0-37-0; Ganguly 3-0-25-0; Tendulkar 1-0-7-0.

Series tied 1-1

Under-19 international match

South Africa v England

FOCHVILLE (second day of four; South Africa won toss): England, with five first-innings wickets in hand, are 429 runs behind South Africa

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings

J Myburgh c Wilton b Swann ... 84
A Galt b Grove ... 6
J Kent c Wilton b Napier ... 17
*M Street c Wilton b Franks ... 24
†M van Wyk c Key b Gough ... 188
G Elliott c Key b Powell ... 39
J Rudolph c Shah b Swann ... 20
M Creed lbw b Swann ... 24
G Bodi c and b Swann ... 69
W Samsodean not out ... 29
V Mpitsang not out ... 4
Extras (b 7, lb 7, w 3, nb 5) ... 22
Total (9wkts dec, 149 overs) ... 506

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-35, 3-89, 4-140, 5-238, 6-291, 7-358, 8-420, 9-496.

BOWLING: Grove 13-1-63-1; Franks 23-5-66-1; Schofield 20-5-83-0; Napier 7-1-34-0; Powell 33-6-118-1; Swann 42-15-90-4; Gough 10-2-38-1; Shah 1-1-0-0.

ENGLAND: First Innings

S D Peters c van Wyk b Creed ... 16
R W T Key c Bodi b Creed ... 4
M A Gough lbw b Rudolph ... 19
*O A Shah b Samsodean ... 13
G P Swann b Bodi ... 5
G R Napier not out ... 11
Extras (lb 2, nb 7) ... 9
Total (5 wkts, 39.1 overs) ... 77

J C Powell, C P Schofield, P J Franks, J O Grove and †N J Wilton to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-25, 3-48, 4-63, 5-77. BOWLING: Mpitsang 7-2-14-0; Creed 7-2-18-2; Samsodean 8-0-20-1; Rudolph 12.1-8-13-1; Bodi 7-2-10-1. Umpires: K Hurter and A O'Conner

CURLING

DRIMSYNIE HOTEL, Lochgoilhead: Young and McMillan Pairs Trophy: L Gow and A Burgess (Lochgoilhead) bt A Young and M Monaghan (Glasgow) 7-1.

HOCKEY

DICK HOLLANDS' MEMORIAL MATCH: Cheam 3 President's XI 7 (at London Transport ground).

ICE HOCKEY

EXPRESS CUP: Sheffield 2 Nottingham 3; Manchester 10 Bracknell 2; Newcastle 2 Ayr 3; Nottingham 5 Basingstoke 4.
NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Friday: Pittsburgh 4 Washington 1; Florida 5 Carolina 2; Buffalo 3 New York Rangers 0; New Jersey 4 New York Islanders 3; Detroit 4 Toronto 1; Chicago 4 St Louis 1; Phoenix 4 San Jose 0. Saturday: Boston 3 Tampa Bay 1; Ottawa 3 Washington 0; Carolina 4 Buffalo 1; Florida 6 New York Islanders 2; Montreal 1 Pittsburgh 0; Detroit 8 Toronto 1; Colorado 5 Edmonton 1; Vancouver 3 Dallas 3 (OT); Anaheim 5 St Louis 5 (OT); Calgary 5 Philadelphia 2; Phoenix 4, Los Angeles 2.

Eastern Conference

Atlantic division

	W	L	T	Pts	F	A
New Jersey	24	10	2	50	111	71
Philadelphia	21	10	7	49	107	85
Washington	16	15	8	40	105	108
NY Islanders	15	18	5	35	103	106
NY Rangers	11	17	12	34	100	109
Florida	14	20	5	33	101	115
Tampa Bay	7	23	7	21	88	114
Northeast division						
Pittsburgh	19	12	8	46	104	90
Montreal	20	15	5	45	114	97
Ottawa	18	17	4	40	99	90
Boston	17	15	6	40	98	97
Carolina	14	20	5	33	100	110
Buffalo	13	18	6	32	88	100

Western Conference

Central division

	W	L	T	Pts	F	A
Dallas	25	9	5	55	124	81
Detroit	24	9	7	55	137	95
St Louis	22	13	6	50	120	99
Phoenix	16	16	7	39	107	106
Toronto	13	19	5	31	85	109
Chicago	12	18	7	31	81	88
Pacific division						
Colorado	20	8	11	51	120	95
Los Angeles	15	16	6	36	105	106
Anaheim	13	18	7	33	92	117
San Jose	14	19	4	32	91	104
Edmonton	11	19	9	31	91	116
Calgary	11	21	8	30	101	120
Vancouver	11	21	6	28	107	128

LACROSSE

SHEPHERDS FRIENDLY NORTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: Premier division: Hulmeians 3 Cheadle 14. Postponed: Stockport v Boardman and Eccles; Poynton v Heaton Mersey; Timperley v Sheffield University; Old Waconians v Mellor. Second division: Rochdale 11 Ashton 9. Postponed: Nottingham University v Moorthorpe; Sale v Sheffield Steelers, Cheadle A v Stockport A; Stopfordians v Wimslow. Third division: Old and Wernath 6 Old Waconians A 14.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Silk Cut Challenge Cup

Second round

Charleston 8 Saddleworth 34

Yesterday

Mytom W 0 Norland 52

Second round replay

Leigh Miners 46 Walney Central 4

Club match

Bramley 48 Hunslet 12
Huddersfield 12 Warrington 36

Jennings Cumbria Cup

Final

Broughton R R 14 Ellenborough 28 (at Derwent Park, Workington)

Yorkshire Electricity Cup

Final

Siddal 8 Featherstone L 9 (at Thrum Hall, Halifax)

BURTONWOOD BREWERY LANCASHIRE CUP: Final: Postponed: Wakefield v Wigan Rose Gr

SKIING

LIENZ, Austria: World Cup: Women: Saturday: Slalom: 1 Y Nowen (Swe) 1min 35.42sec; 2, D Compagnoni (It) (45.59, 49.11) 1:35.70; 3, U Hrovat (Slovenia) (47.11, 49.08) 1:36.19; 4, K Koznick (US) (47.86, 48.74) 1:36.60; 5, P Wiberg (Swe) (47.95, 48.94) 1:36.89; 6, Z Steggall (Aus) (47.54, 49.41) 1:36.95. Yesterday: Slalom: 1, Nowen (49.90, 47.43 sec) 1:37.33; 2, Koznick (49.76, 47.65) 1:37.43; 3, Compagnoni (50.58, 46.94) 1:37.52; 4, Hrovat (50.29, 47.87) 1:38.16; 5, K Seizinger (Ger) (50.36, 49.12) 1:39.48; 6, M Accola (Switz) (50.01, 49.71) 1:39.72. Leading World Cup positions: Slalom: 1, Nowen 380pts; 2, equal, Compagnoni and Koznick 220; 4, Z Steggall (Aus) 212; 5, Hrovat 196; 6, Seizinger 124. Overall: 1, Seizinger 911; 2, H Gerg (Ger) 874; 3, Compagnoni 563; 4, Nowen 533; 5, equal, M Ertl (Ger) and A Meissnitzer (Austria) 461. Nations Cup: 1, Austria 4,867; 2, Germany 2,730; 3, Italy 2,395; 4, Switzerland 1,978; 5, France 1,766
BORMIO, Italy: Men's World Cup downhill: Practice times: 1, H Trinkl (Austria) 2min 02.62sec; 2, C Greber (Austria) 2:02.91; 3, W Franz (Austria) 2:03.49; 4, A Schifferer (Austria) 2:03.58; 5, N Burtin (Fr) 2:03.73; 6, L Kjus (Nor) 2:03.80; 7, H Maier (Austria) 2:03.84; 8, J Strobl (Austria) 2:03.96; 9, F Strobl (Austria) 2:04.36; 10, J-L Cretier (Fr) 2:04.37.

TENNIS

MIAMI BEACH, Florida: Orange Bowl tournament: Boys: Under-18: Quarter-finals: T Messmer (Ger) bt Wei-Jeng Cheng (Taiwan) 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, N Massu (Chile) bt K Ziv (Isr) 6-3, 4-6, 7-6; R Rake (US) bt L Uebel (Ger) 6-2, 3-6, 6-2, J Levinsky (Cz) bt P Arquez (Arg) 7-6, 6-2. Semi-finals: Massu bt Messmer 6-0, 6-4; Rake bt Levinsky (Cz) 6-2, 6-4. Under-16: Semi-finals: F Lopez (Sp) bt J de Armas (Ven) 6-3, 7-6, G Coria (Arg) bt I Kunitsin (Russ) 6-2, 6-0. Final: Coria bt Lopez 6-2, 6-4. Girls: Under-18: Quarter-finals: C Black (Zim) bt I Visic (Cro) 7-5, 6-2; T Pisnik (Slovenia) bt D Krstulovic (Cro) 6-4, 4-6, 7-6; G Volekova (Slovakia) bt M Midleton (US) 6-3, 6-4; E Dementieva (Russ) bt J Kostanic (Cro) 6-2, 6-1. Semi-finals: Pisnik bt Black 6-4, 6-1; Volekova bt Dementieva, 7-6, 7-5. Under-16: Semi-finals: L Dominguez (Sp) bt Li Na (China) 6-2, 6-2; L Sanchez (Fr) bt S Shoeffel (Fr) 2-4 ret. Final: L Dominguez (Sp) bt L Sanchez (Fr) 4-6, 7-5, 6-2

RUGBY UNION

Allied Dunbar Premiership

First division

Bristol 9 Newcastle 50
Bristol: Try: Tiueh. Pen: Burke. Newcastle: Tries: Armstrong 3, Childs, Lam, Naylor, Tait, Tuigamala. Cons: Andrew 2. Pens: Andrew 2. Att: 5,000

Gloucester 28 *Richmond* 20
Gloucester: Tries: Fanolua, Johnson, Lumsden. Con: Mapletoft. Pens: Mapletoft 3. Richmond: Tries: Bateman, Fallon, Williams. Con: Mason. Pen: Mason. Att: 12,000

Harlequins 26 London Irish 24
Harlequins: Tries: Davison, Nebbitt. Cons: Lacroix 2. Pens: Lacroix 4. London Irish: Tries: O'Shea 2, Bishop. Cons: Woods 3. Pen: Woods. Att: 7,348.

Northampton 18 Wasps 10
Northampton: Pens: Grayson 6. Wasps: Try: Friday. Con: Rees. Pen: Rees. Att: 7,500

Sale 11 Bath 13
Sale: Try: Beim. Pens: Howarth 2. Bath: Try: Butland. Con: Catt. Pens: Catt 2. Att: 4,500

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newcastle	7	7	0	0	230	117	14
Saracens	8	7	0	1	216	125	14
Leicester	7	5	0	2	191	134	10
Harlequins	8	5	0	3	213	212	10
Northampton	8	4	0	4	181	151	8
Richmond	9	4	0	5	207	185	8
Bath	7	4	0	3	189	180	8
Sale	8	3	0	5	243	214	6
Gloucester	7	3	0	4	173	169	6
Wasps	6	1	0	5	119	171	2
London Irish	7	1	0	6	114	216	2
Bristol	8	1	0	7	100	302	2

LEADING SCORERS: 126: M Lynagh (Saracens, 4 tries, 14 conversions, 25 penalty goals, 1 dropped goal). 103: S Howarth (Sale, 1t, 22c, 17pg, 1dg). 81: M Mapletoft (Gloucester; 2t, 13c, 14pg, 1dg). 84: J Stransky (Leicester; 1t, 11c, 18pg, 1dg). 78: T Lacroix (Harlequins, 1t, 11c, 15pg, 2dg). 73: P Grayson (Northampton, 2t, 6c, 16pg, 1dg). 69: G Rees (Wasps: 1t, 8c, 16pg). 60: P Burke (Bristol; 6c, 14pg, 2dg). 58: R Andrew (Newcastle; 8c, 14pg). Tries: 6: G Armstrong (Newcastle), T Beim (Sale). 5: D O'Leary (Harlequins), D Rees (Sale), J Wright (Richmond).

Second division

Fylde 7 Bedford 67
Fylde: Try: Penalty. Con: Gough. Bedford: Tries: Forster 3, Whetstone 2, Deans, Murdoch, Murray, Penalty. Cons: Rayer 8. Pens: Rayer 2

Moseley 23 Rotherham 25
Moseley: Tries: Charron, Denhardt, Liley. Con: M Jones. Pen: M Jones. Dropped goal: M Jones. Rotherham: Tries: Binns, Penalty, Wade. Cons: Lax 2. Pens: Binns, Lax. Att: 1,200

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bedford	12	12	0	0	434	177	24
L Scottish	12	8	0	4	300	228	16
Orrell	11	7	0	4	257	177	14
Waterloo	12	7	0	5	290	266	14
W Hartlepool	11	7	0	4	259	224	14
Coventry	12	7	0	5	221	303	14
Rotherham	12	6	0	6	288	237	12
Moseley	12	6	0	6	237	240	12
Blackheath	12	5	0	7	270	299	10
Exeter	12	3	0	9	196	292	6
Wakefield	12	2	0	10	203	290	4
Fylde	12	1	0	11	155	368	2

LEADING SCORERS: 192: M Rayer (Bedford, 5 tries, 34 conversions, 33 penalty goals). 141: S Binns (Rotherham; 3t, 15c, 31pg, 1 dropped goal). L Griffiths (Waterloo; 18c, 35pg) 127: S Vile (West Hartlepool; 3t, 11c, 28pg, 2dg). 111: J Fabian (Exeter; 2t, 10c, 27pg). 98: D Lee (London Scottish; 3t, 12c, 17pg, 2dg). 94: J Harris (Coventry; 2c, 29pg, 1dg). Tries: 11: J Clarke (Blackheath). 10: B Whetstone (Bedford). 9: C Sharman (London Scottish). 7: J Forster (Bedford), A Murdoch (Bedford). 6: M Coast (Waterloo), D O'Mahony (Moseley), W Morris (Waterloo)

Jewson National League

First division

Harrogate 27 Wharfedale 27
Harrogate: Tries: Faulkner, James, Reed. Cons: James 3. Pens: James 2. Wharfedale: Tries: Davies, Lown. Con: Mounsey. Pens: Mounsey 5

Leeds 14 Worcester 15
Leeds: Try: N Green. Pens: Tupoulotu 3. Worcester: Pens: Smith 5

London Welsh 23 Rosslyn Park 22
London Welsh: Tries: Dawes, Giraud, Reynolds, Roskell. Pen: Raymond. Rosslyn Park: Tries: Milward, Penalty, Springhall. Cons: Burns 2. Pen: Burns.

Morley 15 Otley 25
Morley: Tries: Tulloch 2. Con: Bibb. Pen: Bibb. Otley: Tries: Billington, Carroll, N Hargreaves, Watmuff. Con: Hawkins. Pen: Rutledge.

Nottingham 11 Newbury 8
Nottingham: Try: Royer. Pens: C Atkinson 2. Newbury: Try: Davies. Pen: N Grecian.

Reading 25 Lydney 13
Reading: Tries: Clark, Perkin, Rowland. Cons: Costeloe 2. Pens: Costeloe 2. Lydney: Tries: Burnell, Davies. Pen: Morris.

Rugby 33 Liverpool St H 5
Rugby: Tries: Harrison, Morgan. Con: Quantrill. Pens: Davies 6, Quantrill. Liverpool St Helens: Try: Gaskell.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
L Welsh	14	12	1	1	479	233	25
Worcester	14	12	0	2	457	177	24
Rugby	13	10	0	3	390	227	20
Leeds	13	9	1	3	315	221	19
Otley	13	8	0	5	258	277	16
Newbury	13	7	0	6	318	245	14
Reading	14	7	0	7	348	379	14
Nottingham	13	6	0	7	230	275	12
Rosslyn Park	13	5	1	7	230	244	11
Liverpool St H	13	5	1	7	198	308	11
Wharfedale	13	4	1	8	236	352	9
Harrogate	13	3	1	9	279	320	7
Lydney	13	1	0	12	152	264	2
Morley	14	1	0	13	166	533	2

LEADING SCORERS: 176: S Tuipulotu (Leeds; 7 tries, 21 conversions, 33 penalty goals) 152: C Raymond (London Welsh; 4t, 36c, 19pg, 1 dropped goal) 140: A Mounsey (Wharfedale; 4t, 15c, 30pg). 125: C Atkinson (Nottingham; 1t, 12c, 32pg). 123: J Quantrill (Rugby; 5t, 22c, 18pg) 117: P Rutledge (Otley; 3t, 15c, 24pg). 98: A Maddock (Rosslyn Park, 2t, 8c, 24pg). 87: J Dance (Reading; 15c, 19pg) 82: R Le Bas (Worcester; 4t, 16c, 10pg). 7 Smith (Worcester; 3t, 11c, 15pg). Tries: 8: D Bishop (Rugby), C Davies (Newbury), M Giraud (London Welsh), B Johnson (Newbury), J Reynolds (London Welsh). 7: A Currier (London Welsh), M Dawes (London (Welch), L Feurer (Harrogate), Tuipulotu. 6: J Jenner (Worcester), Rowland Phillips (London Welsh), B Rowland (Reading), S Roskell (London Welsh).

Second division north

Hinckley 11 Sedgley Park 8
Lichfield 7 Preston G 34
Nuneaton 8 Manchester 12
Sandal 16 Kendal 21
Sheffield 16 Birmingham/S 23
Walsall 16 Aspatria 24
Winnington Park 10 Stourbridge 27

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Birmingham	12	11	0	1	374	165	22
Manchester	13	10	2	1	463	266	22
Kendal	12	8	1	3	267	156	17
Sedgley Park	12	6	1	5	300	254	13
Sandal	13	6	1	6	256	287	13
Stourbridge	12	6	0	6	284	231	12
Nuneaton	12	6	0	6	205	245	12
Preston G	12	5	1	6	217	213	11
Walsall	12	5	1	6	255	298	11
Sheffield	12	5	0	7	311	262	10
Aspatria	12	5	0	7	235	423	10
Hinckley	12	4	0	8	204	299	8
Lichfield	12	2	1	9	163	307	5
Winnington P	12	2	0	10	216	344	4

Second division south

Cheltenham 17 North Walsham 16
Esher 18 Bridgwater 12
Henley 50 Clifton 19
Met Police 3 Havant 13
Plymouth 20 Camberley 43
Tabard 0 Barking 28
Weston-s-Mare 27 Redruth 20

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Camberley	13	11	0	2	406	208	22
Henley	12	11	0	1	354	183	22
Barking	12	9	0	3	386	221	18
Tabard	13	8	0	5	237	206	16
Esher	12	7	0	5	246	234	14
Clifton	12	7	0	5	200	249	14
N Walsham	12	6	0	6	193	195	12
Cheltenham	12	5	1	6	236	286	11
Weston-s-M	12	5	0	7	189	231	10
Bridgwater	12	5	0	7	254	334	10
Havant	12	4	1	7	160	254	9
Redruth	12	3	0	9	278	308	6
Plymouth	12	2	0	10	229	321	4
Met Police	12	1	0	11	159	317	2

Welsh League

Premier division

Bridgend 25 Ebbw Vale 33
Bridgend: Tries: Durston, Greenaway. Cons: Cull 2. Pens: Cull 4. Ebbw Vale: Tries: Harries, Hawker, Hayward, Llewellyn, Woodard. Cons: Hayward 4

Llanelli 26 Cardiff 24
Llanelli: Tries: Penalty, D Williams. Cons: Botica 2. Pens: Botica 4. Cardiff: Tries: L Davies, Jarvis, Penalty, J Thomas. Cons: Jarvis, J Thomas.

Neath 23 Newport 22
Neath: Tries: G Evans, Penalty. Cons: John 2. Pens: John 3. Newport: Tries: Connor, M Llewellyn, M Robinson. Cons: Connor 2. Pen: Connor

Swansea 24 Pontypridd 24
Swansea: Pens: A Thomas 8. Pontypridd: Tries: Morgan, Wyatt. Con: Jenkins. Pens: Jenkins 3. Dropped goal: Jenkins. Att: 5,000

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Swansea	7	5	1	1	252	129	31	5	21
Pontypridd	7	4	2	1	217	121	27	5	19
Cardiff	7	4	1	2	194	161	21	2	15
Llanelli	7	4	0	3	191	157	22	2	14
Ebbw Vale	7	4	0	3	150	201	18	2	14
Neath	7	2	1	4	161	210	19	1	8
Bridgend	7	2	1	4	137	251	14	0	7
Newport	7	0	0	7	134	196	13	2	3

First division

Aberavon 26 Treorchy 6
Aberavon: Tries: Jacobs 2, Owens, Price. Cons: Ball 3. Treorchy: Pens: D Lloyd 2.

Bonymaen 36 Pontypool 7
Bonymaen: Tries: P John 4, N Evans Young. Cons: G Jones 3. Pontypool: Try: Lawrence. Con: Silva.

Cross Keys 22 Llandovery 17
Cross Keys: Tries: Stroud, Walsh. Pens: Bebb 4. Llandovery: Tries: Bowen 2, Simpson. Con: C Rees

Maesteg 3 Abertillery 10
Maesteg: Pen: A Davies. Abertillery: Try: Miles. Con: Fleet. Pen: Fleet.

Merthyr 10 Newbridge 8
Merthyr: Tries: Berbillon, Morgan. Newbridge: Try: Cooper. Pen: J Williams.

S W Police 21 Rumney 7
South Wales Police: Tries: Sparrow, A Thomas. Con: J Price. Pens: J Price 3. Rumney: Try: Peard. Con: Mason.

Cardiff Inst 19 Dunvant 30
Cardiff Inst: Tries: Cooper, Gardner, P Jones. Cons: J Williams 2. Dunvant: Tries: Allen, E Harris, John, Killa. Cons: Daniel 2. Pens: Daniel, M Thomas

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Caerphilly	17	15	0	2	625	272	79	11	56
Aberavon	17	13	2	2	477	268	69	9	50
Treorchy	17	11	0	6	435	306	61	8	41
S W Police	17	9	0	8	441	329	63	8	35
Merthyr	17	9	3	5	315	294	47	3	33
Llandovery	17	8	0	9	341	305	43	5	29
Bonymaen	17	8	0	9	316	268	42	4	28
Dunvant	17	8	1	8	366	415	41	3	28
Cross Keys	17	8	1	8	324	339	33	2	27
Abertillery	17	8	1	8	284	324	24	2	27
Newbridge	17	7	0	10	278	337	26	3	24
Blackwood	17	7	0	10	299	438	39	2	23
Cardiff Inst	17	4	0	13	378	489	52	9	21
Rumney	16	6	1	9	310	426	38	1	20
Maesteg	16	5	0	11	274	402	26	1	16
Pontypool	17	4	1	12	290	541	36	1	14

Second division

Abercynon 45 St Peter's 33
Pyle 9 Tondu 16
Kenfig Hill 13 Y'dgynlais 34
Mountain Ash 9 Whitland 27
Llanharan 17 Tenby United 8
Narbeth 17 Tredegar 0

Tennents Premiership

First division

Edinburgh A 23 Stirling County 9
Edinburgh Acads: Tries: Hoole, Reed, Troup. Con: Stent. Pens: Barber, Stent. Stirling County: Pens: N McKenzie 3.

Jed-Forest 13 Currie 43
Jed-Forest: Try: L Smith. Con: C Richards. Pens: C Richards 2. Currie: Tries: Tonkin 2, Blair, Caldwell, Campbell, Officer, Rogerson. Cons: Mallinson 3, Officer.

Melrose 8 Hawick 19
Melrose: Try: Dalgleish. Pen: B Ruthven. Hawick: Try: Howe. Con: Welsh. Pens: Murray 2, Welsh 2.

Watsonians 12 Boroughmuir 14
Watsonians: Tries: Dickson, Mather. Con: Duncan Hodge. Boroughmuir: Try: S Reed. Pens: Aitken 2. Dropped goal: Wyllie

West of Scotland 39 Heriots FP 10
West of Scotland: Tries: A Bulloch 2, Chamberlain, N Craig, Steel, Wright. Cons: Chamberlain 2, Williamson. Pen: Chamberlain. Heriots FP: Try: Keenan. Con: Ross. Pen: Ross.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Melrose	5	4	0	1	108	59	0	2	18
W of Scot	4	3	0	1	119	32	0	3	15
Watsonians	5	3	0	2	149	62	0	2	14
Stirling Co	5	3	0	2	91	75	0	1	13
Jed-Forest	5	2	0	3	85	152	0	1	9
Hawick	4	2	0	2	63	67	0	0	8
Boroughmuir	4	2	0	2	40	62	0	0	8
Edinburgh A	4	1	0	3	48	84	0	1	5
Currie	3	1	0	2	57	97	0	1	5
Heriots FP	3	0	0	3	37	107	0	0	0

Second division

Biggar 3 Gala 8
Biggar: Pen: Lavery. Gala: Try: Ballantyne. Pen: Parker.

Dundee HSFP 59 Peebles 8
Dundee HSFP: Tries: Gray 3, Pearson 3, Longstaff, McWhirk, Rouse. Cons: Pearson 4. Pens: Pearson 2. Peebles: Try: Nisbet. Pen: Farmer

Kelso 13 Glasgow Hawks 33
Kelso: Try: Farley. Con: B Hogarth. Pens: B Hogarth 2. Glasgow Hawks: Tries: Hayes, Metcalfe, Stark, Wallace. Cons: Hayes 2. Pens: Hayes 3.

Kilmarnock 18 Kirkcaldy 10
Kilmarnock: Tries: Finnigan, K Sinclair. Con: Stewart. Pens: Stewart 2. Kirkcaldy: Try: Parsons. Con: Gilmour. Pen: Gilmour

Preston Lodge 14 Musselburgh 18
Preston Lodge: Try: Redpath. Pens: J Smith 3. Musselburgh: Tries: E Archibald, P Livingston. Con: P Livingston. Pens: P Livingston 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Glasgow H	5	5	0	0	169	53	0	4	24
Gala	5	4	0	1	105	64	0	2	18
Kelso	5	3	0	2	115	89	0	2	14
Kilmarnock	5	3	0	2	85	90	0	1	12
Dundee H	4	2	0	2	106	83	0	3	11
Kirkcaldy	5	2	0	3	83	90	0	1	9
Biggar	5	2	0	3	61	119	0	1	9
Peebles	5	1	1	3	70	119	0	2	8
Musselburgh	4	1	1	2	44	67	0	1	7
Preston L	5	0	0	5	47	143	0	1	1

Third division

Aberdeen GSFP 17 Glenrothes 5
Aberdeen GSFP: Try: McGuire. Pens: Oddy 4. Glenrothes: Try: McIver

Glasgow South 8 Ayr 18
Glasgow Southern: Try: Jackson. Pen: Corsey. Ayr: Tries: Allison, Jesson. Con: E Ellis. Pens: E Ellis 2

Gordonians 3 Selkirk 19
Gordonians: Pen: C Carmichael. Selkirk: Try: Tamora. Con: Blair. Pens: Blair 4

Grangemouth 41 Hillhead/J'hill 3
Grangemouth: Tries: Cowan 2, Bradley, Hughes, McMillan, Wilson. Cons: Haliday 4. Pen: Haliday. Hillhead/Jordanhill: Pen: D Muir.

Stewarts Mel FP 36 Stewartry 22
Stewarts Mel FP: Tries: Steele 2, Twiddie 2, Lines, F Pollock. Cons: Lindt 3. Stewartry: Tries: Borland, Callander, Caygill, Swaleel. Con: Campbell

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Selkirk	5	5	0	0	98	36	0	1	21
Ayr	5	3	1	1	100	61	0	2	16
G'mouth	3	3	0	0	38	42	0	2	14
Gordonians	5	3	0	2	54	76	0	0	12
Stewarts M	3	2	0	1	73	53	0	2	10
Aberdeen G	4	2	0	2	62	66	0	1	9
Glenrothes	3	1	0	2	30	29	0	1	5
Glasgow S	5	1	0	4	67	119	0	1	5
Hillhead/J	5	0	1	4	73	127	0	3	5
Stewartry	4	0	0	4	75	121	0	3	3

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Ylva Nowen, of Sweden, on her way to a third successive slalom victory in the skiing World Cup, at Lienz, in Austria. Photograph: Armando Trovati

GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
* denotes all-ticket match

FA Carling Premiership
Southampton v Chelsea (8.0)

Nationwide League
Second division
Gillingham v Brentford

Third division
Colchester v Cambridge Utd (7.45)

Vauxhall Conference
Cheltenham v Welling (7.45)
Hednesford v Stevenage (7.45)
Kettering v Halifax (3.0)
Leek v Morecambe (7.45)
Slough v Farnborough (7.45)
Stalybridge v Southport (7.45)
Woking v Yeovil (7.45)

PONTINS LEAGUE: Cup: Group six: Tranmere v Blackpool (7.0)
MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: O'Brien Butchers Premier division Cup: First round, first leg: Milton Keynes v Harlington Borough
UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Eynesbury v St Neots; Stamford v M Blackstone

OTHER SPORT

RACING: Haydock Park (1.10), Musselburgh (1.0), Taunton (12.50).

TOMORROW

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP: First division: Bath v Northampton (3.0). Leicester v Newcastle (7.45); London Irish v Saracens; Sale v Gloucester; Wasps v Richmond

OTHER SPORT

ICE HOCKEY: Express Cup: Newcastle Cobras v Nottingham Panthers (7.0), Manchester Storm v Sheffield Steelers (7.30); Bracknell Bees v Basingstoke Bison (5.0)
RACING: Carlisle (1.0); Plumpton (1.10), Stafford (1.20)

WEDNESDAY

RUGBY UNION

ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP: First division: Harlequins v Bristol (3.0)

OTHER SPORT

RACING: Catterick (1.10); Fontwell Park (12.45); Warwick (12.30)

THURSDAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Hearts v Hibernian (2.0).
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Farnborough v Woking; Halifax v Gateshead; Hayes v Slough; Kettering v Hednesford; Kidderminster v Hereford (12.30). Southport v Morecambe; Stalybridge v Northwich; Stevenage v Rushden and Diamonds; Telford v Leek; Welling v Dover; Yeovil v Cheltenham (11.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

CLUB MATCHES: Huddersfield v Halifax (2.30), Leeds v Castleford (3.0); Rochdale v Oldham (3.0)

OTHER SPORT

RACING: Lingfield Park (AW, 1.05), Catterick (12.50), Cheltenham (12.30), Leicester (12.55): Exeter (1.10); Windsor (12.50)

FRIDAY

FOOTBALL

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Celtic v Rangers (2.0).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Newcastle Eagles v Derby Storm (7.30)
RACING: Southwell (AW, 1.0), Ayr (12.40), Newbury (1.20)

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
FA CUP: Third round: Arsenal v Port Vale; Barnsley v Bolton, Blackburn v Wigan; Bournemouth v Huddersfield; *Bristol Rovers v Ipswich; Cardiff v Oldham; Charlton v Nottingham Forest; Cheltenham v Reading; Crewe v Birmingham; Crystal Palace v Scunthorpe; *Darlington v Wolverhampton; Derby v Southampton; Grimsby v Norwich, Hereford v Tranmere; Leeds v Oxford United, Leicester v Northampton; Liverpool v Coventry; Manchester City v Bradford; Peterborough v Walsall; *Portsmouth v Aston Villa, Preston v Stockport; Queens Park Rangers v Middlesbrough, *Rotherham v Sunderland; Sheffield United v Bury; Swindon v Stevenage, Watford v Sheffield Wednesday; West Bromwich v Stoke; West Ham v Emley.
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: Second division: Blackpool v Bristol City; Chesterfield v Brentford; Gillingham v Burnley; Southend v Luton. Third division: Colchester v Hartlepool; Exeter v Barnet; Macclesfield v Brighton; Mansfield v Rochdale; Notts County v Hull; Scarborough v Torquay; Shrewsbury v Lincoln.
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Gateshead v Kidderminster, Halifax v Dover; Hednesford v Farnborough; Leek v Kettering; Morecambe v Hayes; Woking v Welling; Yeovil v Southport.
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Aberdeen v Dundee United, Dunfermline v St Johnstone; Kilmarnock v Motherwell. First division: Airdrie v Partick; Dundee v Raith; Hamilton v Ayr; St Mirren v Greenock Morton; Stirling v Falkirk.
TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: Second round: Annan Ath v Vale of Leithen (2.0); Arbroath v Queen Of South; Clydebank v Montrose; East Stirling v Edinburgh City, Forfar v Albion, Inverness CT v Queen's Park; Livingston v Berwick; Lossiemouth v Dumbarton, Peterhead v Alloa, Ross County v Brechin, Stenhousemuir v Deveronvale, Stranraer v Fraserburgh.

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
TETLEY'S BITTER CUP: Fourth round: Bath v London Scottish; Bracknell v Rotherham (2.0); Camberley v Newbury (2.0), Coventry v Leicester; Fylde v Rosslyn Park (2.0); London Welsh v Gloucester (2.0) Manchester v London Irish (2.0); Moseley v Sale; Newcastle v Exeter; Northampton v Bedford (2.0). Richmond v Doncaster (2.15); Rugby v Reading, West Hartlepool v Wakefield (2.0)
JEWSON LEAGUE: First division: Liverpool St Helens v Nottingham (2.30); Lydney v Morley, Otley v Harrogate (2.15).
Second division north: Aspatria v Winnington Park (2.30); Birmingham/Solihull v Walsall (2.30); Kendal v Sheffield (2.30); Preston Grasshoppers v Nuneaton (2.15); Sedgley Park v Lichfield (2.15); Stourbridge v Hinckley (2.30). Second division south: Barking v Weston-super-Mare (2.15); Bridgwater v Henley; Clifton v Met Police (2.30); Havant v Plymouth (2.30); North Walsham v Esher (2.30). Redruth v Cheltenham (2.30)
WELSH LEAGUE: Premier division: Bridgend v Newport (2.0), Cardiff v Pontypridd (2.30); Neath v Llanelli (2.0); Swansea v Ebbw Vale (2.0). First division: Abertillery v Aberavon (2.0), Blackwood v South Wales Police (2.0); Dunvant v Merthyr (2.0); Llandovery v Caerphilly (2.0); Newbridge v Bonymaen (2.0); Pontypool v Cross Keys (2.0); Rumney v Maesteg (2.0); Treorchy v Cardiff Institute (2.0)
TENNENTS PREMIERSHIP: Third division: Aberdeen GSFP v Stewartry (2.0); Stewarts Mel FP v Grangemouth (2.0).
AIB LEAGUE: First division: 174 Blackrock College v Garryowen (2.30), Clontarf v Constitution (2.30); Dungannon v Lansdowne (2.30); Old Belvedere v Dolphin (2.30). Old Crescent v St Marys (2.30); Terenure v Ballymena (2.30). Second division: Bective Rangers v Buccaneers (2.30); Derry v Skerries (2.30), Malone v Greystones (2.30); Sundays Well v Galwegians (2.30); UCC v Instonians (2.30); Wanderers v Old Wesley (2.30).

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: World cross country challenge (at Durham)
BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Crystal Palace v Leicester Riders (7.30); Derby Storm v Chester Jets (7.30); Manchester Giants v Newcastle Eagles (7.30); Watford Royals v Leopards (7.30). Thames Valley Tigers v London Towers (8.0). Worthing Bears v Sheffield Sharks (8.0).
ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Ayr Scottish Eagles v Basingstoke Bison (6.30). Cardiff Devils v Sheffield Steelers (7.0). Express Cup: Nottingham Panthers v Bracknell Bees (7.0)
RACING: Lingfield Park (AW, 12.40); Musselburgh (12.25); Uttoxeter (1.05); Newbury (12.45).

SUNDAY

FOOTBALL

FA CUP: Third round: *Chelsea v Manchester United (noon); Everton v Newcastle (2.0); Hereford v Tranmere (noon). Wimbledon v Wrexham (2.0)

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
TETLEY BITTER CUP: Fourth round: Blackheath v Saracens; Wasps v Harlequins; Worcester v Bristol (2.30)
SRU INTER-DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP: Caledonia v Glasgow (at Rubislaw, Aberdeen, 2.0); Edinburgh v Scottish Borders (at Inverleith, 2.0)
AIB LEAGUE: First division: Shannon v Young Munster (2.30)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Chester Jets v Watford Royals (5.30); Sheffield Sharks v Thames Valley Tigers (6.0). Leopards v Birmingham Bullets (6.0); London Towers v Manchester Giants (5.0).
ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Newcastle Cobras v Basingstoke Bison (6.30); Sheffield Steelers v Ayr Scottish Eagles (6.30); Manchester Storm v Nottingham Panthers (6.0). Express Cup: Bracknell Bees v Cardiff Devils (6.0).

CYCLING

CYCLO-CROSS: Royal Bank of Scotland Supercross (South Park, Macclesfield, 10.5 miles): 1, N Craig (Diamond Back) 1hr 0min 59sec; 2, D Baker (Team GT) at 2min 0sec; 3, B Clarke (Team Raleigh) at 2:11. Swansea CC (Morfa Stadium, 10 miles): 1, G Rogerson (Army CU) 52min 40sec; 2, M Thomas (Schmoos) at 2min 10sec; 3, R Porter (Cwmcarn Paragon) at 2:30. Crabwood CC (Tatchbury Mount, Southampton, 10 miles): 1, R Rumbelow (Hargroves-Trent) 59:01; 2, A Buz (Hargroves-Trent) at 24sec; 3, P Bogers (VC St Raphael) at 27. Coventry Olympic (Nuneaton, 8.5 miles): 1, D Barnett (Bikepark-Raleigh). 54:35; 2, S Knight (Peugeot-MI Racing) at 1min 32sec; 3, D Atkins (Coventry RC) at 3:34. Circuit of the Moor (Matlock, 15 kilometres): 1, T Gould (Team Schwinn-Toyota) 50:02; 2, S Knight (Peugeot-MI Racing) at 55sec; 3, D Barnett (Bikepark-Raleigh) at 2min 40sec. Gemini BC (Foots Cray, Kent, 12 miles): 1, S Blunt (Ace RT) 1hr 9min 10sec; 2, T Morley (Raleigh M-Trax) at 45sec; 3, R Young (Sutton and Croydon Offroad) at 1min 15sec.
ROAD RACE: Twickenham CC Winter Series (Hillingdon, 45 kilometres): 1, J Streather (Tunstall Wheelers) 59min 15sec; 2, R Vail (Twickenham CC) same time; 3, S Lemanski (Cambridge University) at 1min 32sec.
TIME TRIALS: Elmet CRC (Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, 10 miles): 1, H Walker (GS Metro) 22min 22sec; 2, J Read (Goole Vermuyden CC) 22.56; 3, P Barnes (Team Rapide). 23:09. Bejaoss Wheelers (Stagsden, Bedfordshire, 18 miles): 1, A Horner (Leo RC) 42:01; 2, S Barker (Team Chiltern 44:42; 3, B Gamard (North Bucks RC) 45:18.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbuhel	5	75	good	powder	worn	snow	-5	28/12
(Heavy snowfall giving great powder conditions)								
Soll	20	100	good	varied	closed	snow	1	28/12
(Piste conditions good but some icy patches)								
St Anton	50	200	good	powder	good	snow	0	28/12
(New snow at all levels; prospects excellent)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	70	150	good	powder	good	fine	-7	27/12
(Over 30cm of fresh powder: excellent everywhere)								
Avoriaz	75	100	good	powder	good	fair	-2	27/12
(Conditions improving: plenty of great skiing)								
Meribel	60	80	good	powder	fair	cloud	2	28/12
(Vastly improved conditions: great skiing)								
La Plagne	75	120	good	powder	good	cloud	-5	28/12
(Excellent conditions thanks to fresh snow)								
S Chevalier	70	200	good	varied		fair	1	28/12
(Good piste skiing: some low runs hard and icy)								
Tignes	70	160	good	powder	good	cloud	-7	28/12
(Thigh-deep powder on some pistes: great skiing)								
Val d'Isère	70	125	good	powder	good	cloud	-6	28/12
(Plenty of powder everywhere: great skiing)								
ITALY								
Livigno	70	130	good	powder	good	fair	-4	26/12
(Packed powder on all pistes: odd worn patch)								
SWITZERLAND								
Klosters	45	120	good	powder	fair	snow	-2	28/12
(Fresh snow at all levels, great skiing)								
Murren	50	100	good	powder	good	snow	-4	28/12
(Plenty of new snow: outlook excellent)								
Verbier	20	120	good	powder	good	snow	-5	28/12
(Up to 50cm of fresh snow: high avalanche risk)								
Wengen	20	70	good	powder	good	snow	-1	28/12
(Very good skiing but mixed visibility)								
Zermatt	20	80	good	varied	art	fine	-3	28/12
(Plenty of good skiing: some worn spots on busy runs)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial

هكذا من الأصل

Climbing is not merely for the wildly athletic or just the wild. **Christine Buckley** puts her best rock boot forward




DOUG MARIE

Rock climbing is a dangerous sport. Much of its appeal springs from the exhilaration and adrenalin rush that comes from conquering fear. But despite its reputation, it is a sport that is growing and one that can be addictive

Come on up, the view is great

Happy faces beam out from selected climbs in a guidebook to Derbyshire's Peak District. Do they mark a particularly enjoyable climb or a stunning view at its summit? No. The happy symbols tell you that a climb has a low death factor — a somewhat grim reassurance. The faint-hearted novice could be easily forgiven for bailing out immediately.

Rock climbing is a dangerous sport. Much of its appeal springs from the exhilaration and adrenalin rush that comes from conquering fear. But despite its reputation and the smiling faces, climbing is not all life or die. One has only to pay a gritstone outcrops in Derbyshire or Snowdonia's crags on a summer's day to see them teeming with people, proving that the sport is not merely the preserve of the wildly athletic or just the wild. Ages and abilities vary, as do the types of climb.

Even greater testimony to its appeal comes at this time of the year when the brave-hearted head for the mountains. As the temperatures drop and ice fills the crevasses and turns the slopes into glass, climbers get hold of their ice picks, put on crampons and set off to do battle with an inhospitable environment.

Climbing is a growing sport, although the increase may not be as great as it was a few years ago. It can prove a powerful addiction — unfathomable to the non-climbers who see no attraction in acquiring cuts and bruises while terrifying themselves several hundred feet in the air. But the activity is irresistible to those who can get past the frightening moments and seemingly insurmountable obstacles.

While climbing demands a certain amount of agility and fitness, most people can attempt basic grades and will quickly work out how to operate the equipment. Like scuba diving, climbing is heavily dependent on equipment — it can provide insect-like ability to stick to a sheer rock face. Courage and determination are the other important ingredients.

SPORT FOR ALL

For the new climber the most remarkable item is the rock boot that brings a new dimension of discomfort. They are made of hard rubber and designed to be very tight on first wearing. But the demon-like boots work on the principle of friction and can maintain contact with rock at the most unlikely of angles. They will help you to scramble up vertical faces and perch on the tiniest of protrusions.

The rope's purpose is obvious, but to use it effectively requires some familiarity with knots and ropework. Figure of eights, clove hitches, operating belays (the method of keeping ropes tight so there is less distance for climbers to fall) come easily to those without rope dyslexia. For those of us with that condition, the techniques take longer.

Friends, nuts, hexes, slings and quad-cams are the means by which the rope is secured to the rockface. These devices can prove compulsively collectible and they are not cheap. The novice climber stocking up on the numerous metal toys with multicoloured rope attachments can find a trip to the till at the outdoor shop almost as frightening as leading a first climb. Gearing up for climbing is expensive and is best done once you are sure you will continue the sport.

The best way to learn the rudiments of climbing is with a trained instructor. For those who prefer not to take their first fall in front of a group of similar amateurs a good way to get acquainted with the rock is with a dedicated instructor who offers one-to-one tuition or restricts the numbers in the group.

In the Peak District — a good place to start because the climbs are not very high — there are a number of freelance instructors. Rock and Ice is run by Richard Hogan, an instructor who calls on a network of climbers. Lessons can be tailored to beginners or existing climbers who want to develop their skills. Taking a couple of weekend courses will confirm whether or not you have the taste for climbing.

I started my lesson with bouldering. This is technique-building stuff and because it is done without ropes on high free-standing rocks, it is bravery building, too. Boulders vary in height from about 10ft to about 20ft. Their differing forms offer a variety of obstacles to overcome via carefully placed feet and hands. Along with developing technique, bouldering is a good exercise for novices to put faith in their boots. Pretty soon, clambering down a boulder will have you moving down inclines that might have seemed impossible.

After limbering up on the boulders, we were then off to scale some heights at Frogett where an outcrop of crags offers a range of climbs.

As we had both climbed before, we set off leading. Pairs of climbers generally take turns leading — one ascending putting in gear to hold the rope, the other belaying the rope.

For lead climbers the experience is a pure encounter with the rock. Their safety depends on judgment. It is important to place the equipment into which you are going to clip your rope as soon as possible. This will affect how far you could plunge if you fall. But placing equipment can be easier said than done and it is easy to climb 20 or 30 feet without having passed a suitable crack into which you can wedge the equipment. At that point alarm bells should ring. While experienced climbers can happily trot up climbs without establishing protection, it is important to remember just where you are no matter how easy the climb. One slip is not worth the risk.

Instruction can be very useful for the climber who knows the techniques but is new to the sport. While the instructor is not going to do the climb for you, he or she will be able to point out mistakes and strengths that will improve your ability.

Rock and Ice specialises in individually constructed courses. Climbing centres offer more regimented programmes. In the winter the company takes excursions to Scotland for ice climbs and in the summer it is out in Derbyshire and Staffordshire. For flexibility, Rock and Ice is likely to suit the dabbler climber. But dabblers may soon have to brace themselves for a hobby that quickly becomes a preoccupation. There are not many half-hearted climbers about. A few climbs on and the newcomer will soon be sifting through the beaming recommendations for low death factor ascents with comparatively little trepidation.



Christine Buckley checks her gear before starting her lesson with bouldering



An instructor leads the way

FACT FILE

☐ For more information: the British Mountaineering Council, 177 Burton Road, Manchester M20 (0161-445 4747). The BMC has guides for novices and lists of local clubs for those who have some experience.

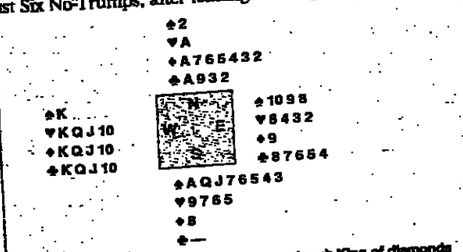
☐ Rock and Ice, Birchtree House, The Crescent, Shirley, nr Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 3AS (01335 360490).

☐ Climbing walls have sprung up in or near most cities. A good venue is the Castle Climbing Centre — an old water tower in Green Lanes, North London, has been converted into an indoor centre (0181-211 7000).

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

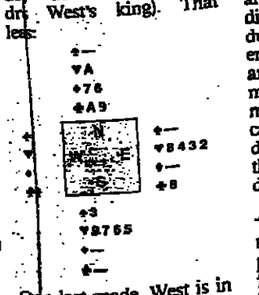
BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

In the Christmas competition last year I had a question that involved working out how many tricks the declarer could make with ♠KQJ10♥KQJ♦KQJ♣KQJ opposite a Yarborough. I was reminded of it by the West hand in the double dummy problem below, from an article by Nigel Guthrie in the magazine *Bridge Plus*. How many tricks do you think West can make against Six No-Trumps, after leading the king of diamonds?



Contract: Six No-Trumps by South — Lead: King of diamonds

The answer is one — South can make Six No-Trumps. He wins the diamond lead in dummy, and rattles off seven spade tricks (naturally, it is best double-dummy, he discards West's king). That leaves:



One last spade. West is in difficulties. If he discards a diamond, dummy lets go the nine of clubs and declarer crosses with a heart to set up a diamond as his twelfth trick. If West throws a club, that sets up the twelfth trick immediately. So he throws the king of hearts. Now, declarer discards the ace of hearts from dummy, and cashes the nine of hearts discarding a diamond from dummy. In the three-card ending, he exits with a heart, and West is squeezed in the minors — dummy keeps the minor that West throws. East cannot return a heart as declarer has two winners in the suit, so he has to give dummy the last two tricks.

Guthrie describes it as a "jettison triple squeeze without the count". He posed the problem in a more difficult form — given the North-South hands, construct the West hand that allows South to make Six No-Trumps on the lead of the king of diamonds.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Glittering Prizes

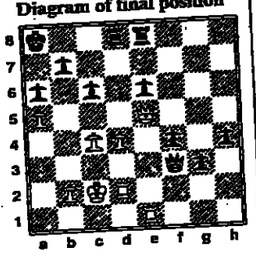
Michael Adams, the British grandmaster, gold medallist at the Mind Sports Olympiad and co-British champion, is set to reap a rich reward after finally eliminating his fellow British grandmaster Nigel Short in the semi-final of the FIDE World Championship in Groningen, Holland. After a marathon series of draws, Adams finally pulled off a fine strategic win, thus earning himself the right to play Viswanathan Anand in the final of the qualifier and a guaranteed prize fund of over 300,000 dollars. This will be the largest prize won in a chess event by a British player since Nigel Short contested the final of the Professional Chess Association World Championship against Garry Kasparov in London in 1993. Here is the game which promoted Adams to the final.

White: Nigel Short
Black: Michael Adams
FIDE World Championship
Groningen, December 1997
Caro-Kann Defence

1	e4	c6
2	d4	d5
3	Nc3	dxe4
4	Nxe4	Nd7
5	Bc4	Ngf6
6	Nd6+	Nxd6
7	c3	Qc7
8	h3	Bf5
9	Nf3	e6
10	0-0	Bd6
11	Re1	h6
12	Qe2	0-0-0
13	e4	g5
14	Ne5	Nd5
15	a5	f6
16	Nd3	h5
17	Bd2	a6
18	Bb3	Kb8
19	c4	Nf4
20	Nxd4	Bxf4
21	Bc3	g4
22	h4	g3
23	f3	Rhe8
24	Bc2	Bxc2
25	Qxc2	f5
26	Rad1	Qe7
27	Bd2	Bxd2
28	Qxd2	Qxh4
29	Qe3	f4
30	Qe5+	Ka8
31	Rd2	Qh2+
32	Kf1	Qh1+
33	Ke2	Qxg2+
34	Kd1	Qxd3+
35	Kc2	h4

White resigns

Diagram of final position



Update
The final between Adams and Anand consists of four games, the first two of which were hard fought draws.

Times Book
The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from International Grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (01376 321276 at £6.99+p&p).

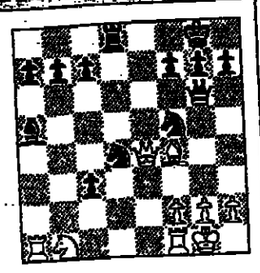
☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is a variation from the game Marache - Morphy, London, 1857. Thanks to White's earlier gambit play, Black has four extra pawns on the queenside. However, he can quickly decide the game on the other wing. What can he play?

Solution on page 46



WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

NUMBO
a. Neanderthal man
b. lotus
c. card game

HUKU
a. proper
b. anal self-abasement
c. gambling machine

LAMPUKI
a. An ivory statuette
b. A Maltese fish
c. A maternity frock

MORDIDA
a. A maize bun
b. A Mexican bung
c. Class sarcasm

Answers on page 46

هكذا من الأصل

RACING: ABSENCE OF DORANS PRIDE SIMPLIFIES LEOPARDSTOWN TASK FOR FORMER GOLD CUP WINNER

Imperial Call enjoys exhibition round

By Chris McGrath

WHILE *the festive crowds* — drawn to Leopardstown yesterday by the promise of a championship bout — instead saw a virtuoso display of shadow boxing, they were nonetheless reminded that Irish jump racing has more than one source of pride.

Imperial Call, *brilliant* winner of the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup in 1996, won his first race since in the Ericsson Chase, inspiring sufficient nostalgia even in bookmakers for the withdrawal of Dorans Pride to be ignored.

BIG-RACE DETAILS

2.40 ERICSSON CHASE (£32,500: 3m)
IMPERIAL CALL br g Callernish - Princess Menelek (Lisselan Farms) 8-12-0 C O'Dwyer (4-7 fav) 1.
Merry Gale br g Strong Gale - Merry Lesa (H Stanley) 10-12-0 N Williamson (3-1) 2.
Antonin ch g Italic - Pin Hup (G R Bailey Ltd) 9-12-0 K Whelan (12-1) 3.
ALSO RAN: Opera Hat (f). 4 ran. NR: Corket, Dorans Pride. 7l, dist. F Sutherland. Tote: £1.60. DF: £2.00. CSF: £2.55.

While that horse retains 5-1 favouritism *for Cheltenham*, the sponsor now makes Imperial *Call 8-1 (from 10-1) to* retrieve his crown, while William Hill is as short as 7-1. An unchanged quote of 10-1 from Ladbrokes, however, indicates that the absence of Dorans Pride — with an abscess on his foot — left Imperial Call with little to prove against three remaining opponents.

Having said that, there is no doubting the legitimate sense of revival in the Imperial Call camp after a year of tedious training setbacks. Despite the *sort of cloying ground* that blunts a horse of such flair, he *jumped with bravado* throughout. His only imperfections — *an inclination* towards the extrovert at his ditches and a rather steep landing at the fourth — would be spectacular in a lesser horse.

Kept to the outside by Conor O'Dwyer while the headstrong Antonin led for a circuit, Imperial Call took command entering the back straight for the final time. After Opera Hat fell at the fourth last, only Merry Gale *could attempt pursuit — initially* with some stealth, but *labouring after the final ditch.*

O'Dwyer knew he had the race sewn up, but equally began to sense a *loss* of conviction in Imperial Call approaching the last, either through idleness or the beginnings of physical exhaustion. Shaken up fairly vigorously, Imperial Call was then eased to a walk before the line — where he still preserved an advantage of seven lengths.

Fergie Sutherland, his trainer, said: "He *was in front* a long way and never had to be hit or anything. He's a very intelligent horse and when it turned into a two-horse school, and he knew he had them beat, he just lobbed along. It's a shame we didn't have a shower to loosen the ground, but he jumped well."

Imperial Call had been sharpened up for yesterday's race with an outing over timber at Navan the previous weekend — and O'Dwyer intimated that those exertions, compounded by the sticky ground, might have left the *horse slightly flat. If that* is the case, Sutherland will doubt*less think better of returning* here *in* a fortnight for the Leopardstown Chase. "His main target remains the Hennessy Gold Cup on February 8," he said.

Michael Hourigan, trainer of Dorans Pride, is anxious to get a run into him as soon as possible, either side of the Irish Sea. "It will only take two or three days for him to recover," he said.

Mouse Morris saddled novices well *up to Cheltenham* standard, over both fences and hurdles, in Boss Doyle and Foxchapel King respectively. Boss Doyle may stay at home for the Irish National and nor will anyone be rushing young Foxchapel King.

A game success in his trial earnt Commanche Court, the Triumph Hurdle winner, 6-1 Ladbroke Hurdle favouritism with the sponsor. Punters must likewise remain alert to today's card — with two other Cheltenham winners, Ista*braq and Florida Pearl*, limbering up for their return in March.

CAROLINE NORRIS



Imperial Call puts in an extravagant leap on his way to a seven-length victory in the Ericsson Chase at Leopardstown yesterday

Kempton fall gives Maguire another break from action

ADRIAN MAGUIRE was yesterday confident that he will be back race-riding in time for the Cheltenham Festival *despite* another injury setback. The talented Irish jockey, who has *missed* National Hunt's biggest meeting for the last three seasons, aggravated an old injury to his wrist after a fall from Hurricane Lamp in the Pertemps Cream Wayward Lad Novices' Chase at Kempton on Saturday.

It is just a week since he returned to the saddle after fracturing *his right arm* in a fall from Mulligan, who came down at the second-last fence in Sandown's Tingle Creek Chase *early this* month. Maguire blamed the incident on an *over-exuberant* racegoer distracting his mount by waving *his* arms *as the runners* approached the fence.

Maguire was also out of action from late February to late June this year after suffering a broken arm after a fall from Foxwoods Valley at Leicester.

His wife, Sabrina, said yesterday: "Adrian is quite relieved that it won't rule him out of Cheltenham. The bone he cracked three weeks ago *has opened into a break.* He will be in plaster for six weeks."

Maguire was detaine on *Saturday* night at the Pricess Margaret hospital at Swindon. *His wife reported* ysterday: "He is coming ot of hospital tonight. *They kept* him overnight as they wnted to put a new plaster on, s his arm was quite swolle. At least Cheltenham is loking good."

Maguire has had a istory of unlucky *injuries durig his* career and also broke a arm at Hereford in April, 195 — scuppering his chance *f* an elusive jockeys' chanpionship.

As Maguire preparesfor a *lengthy spell* on the siddines, Tony Dobbin returns t race*riding* at Musselburgh today after a 5½-week ly-of. The Irishman *rides* Hurst Flyer and Ballyline at the Scottish track, *his first mounts* since he dislocated his shoulder in a fall at Sedgefield.

"I also damaed some nerves down the sde of my arm and that's why I've been off for five weeks" Dobbin said. "But I have ben riding out for a week andschooling and it has been ver comfortable. I can't wait t get back and I am raring t go." He added: "I have wo on both Hurst Flyer and Ballyline and it is good to come bak on two *horses you know.*"

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: *Alka International* (12.50 Taunton)

Alka International is progressing fast this season and won [illegible] in hand at Ha[illegible] recently. He is more [illegible] of following up [illegible] handicap mark.

Next best: Saxon Duke (1.20 Taunton)

Haydock off

TODAY'S meeting at Haydock has been lost because of prolonged wet weather. After a morning inspection yesterday, Philip Arkwright, the clerk of the course, said: "The meeting has been abandoned as parts of the course are waterlogged. We have had just over 2¼ inches of rain in *the last five days.*"

Earth Summit leads revival of Twiston-Davies team

THE Cheltenham trainer, Nigel Twiston-Davies, yesterday stressed that there is no *secret to his sudden resurgence* in form. He has saddled six winners in the last two racing days — having gained only eight victories in the previous six months of the season.

He collected a big-race double on Saturday when Earth Summit captured the Coral Welsh National at Chepstow *at odds of 25-1* and Kerawi landed a gamble in the *Pertemps Christmas Hurdle* at Kempton.

But he said: "There is no explanation for it. We are not doing anything different — everything is just going right for a change. I'm not sure whether yesterday was my best day as a trainer. We won two races on the same day at the Cheltenham Festival in 1993 and this was very much on a par with that."

Earth Summit is now 16-1 third favourite for the Martell Grand National with Ladbrokes. "He's fine after the race," *Twiston-Davies said.* "He will go next for the *Greenalls* Gold Cup at Haydock, then the National. We just *hope* the weather stays in his favour and he gets *softish* ground."

The trainer is hopeful of landing another big prize with Kerawi, seemingly thrown in on 9st 13lb in the Tote Gold Trophy at Newbury on February 14 after his threequarters of a length defeat of Shadow Leader in Saturday's event.

"He will go to Newbury. At *this stage I don't* think he will run again beforehand," *Twiston-Davies said.* "He *has* been knocking on the door and *running* well *in* big handicaps this season and we are very hopeful."

Twiston-Davies also celebrated another 25-1 success at Kempton when Upgrade, pulled up on his only previous start over hurdles, ran on too strongly for the warm favourite, *Real Estate*, in the Pertemps Caledonian Juvenile Novices' Hurdle.

Of his other hopes, Twiston-Davies reported that he remains mystified by Young Hustler's poor effort when well beaten at Cheltenham early this month. "He just ran badly," the trainer said. His Arctic Kinsman is a possible runner in the Victor Chandler Handicap Chase at Ascot on January 17.

Meanwhile, the Paul Nicholls-trained *See More Business*, the King George VI Chase winner, is set to reappear in the Pillar Property Investment Chase at Cheltenham next month.

The gelding landed the Kempton showpiece on Boxing Day in the hands of Andrew Thornton but will be reunited with regular pilot Timmy Murphy — who missed the ride because of suspension — at Cheltenham.

"He's in good form right *now and, although I have yet* to speak to his owners Paul Barber and John Keighley, I think the Cheltenham race is a good stepping-stone to the Gold Cup as conditions are *likely* to be in our favour," Nicholls said.



Twiston-Davies: resurgence

TAUNTON

THUNDERER
12.50 Manileno
1.20 Saxon Duke
1.50 Top Skipper
2.20 Ross Dancer
2.50 Pekay
3.20 Bavardier

Timekeeper's top rating:
1.50 KARICLEIGH BOY.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. F if flat (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Timekeeper's speed rating.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

12.50 CHRISTMAS PUDDING CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,379: 2m 1f) (10 runners)

101 1111023 NORTHERN DRUMS 20 (CD,F,G) (R Peake) M Pipe 4-11-10 ... C Durham (5) 107
102 4130-01 SIBERIAN MYSTIC 13 (CD,G) (Slenderry And Partners) P Murphy 4-11-5 L Aspell 109
103 2-52521 THE MINDER 18 (B,CD,G,S) (G Edwards) G Edwards 10-11-1 D Salter 100
104 42P-321 ALKA INTERNATIONAL 16 (S) (P Townsley) Mrs P Townsley 6-11-0 X Aizpuru 114
105 4502-05 BON VOYAGE 13 (B,D,G,S) (French Relation Plus) P Hobbs 5-10-12 E Husband 113
106 2511-04 BLADE OF FORTUNE 18 (CD,S) (V Greenway) V Greenway 9-10-12 L Cummins 112
107 U4P1123 ALMAPA 50 (BF,CD,F) (P Slade) R Hodges 5-10-8 ... T Dascombe 107
108 2F323-1 CLASSIC PAL 205 (F,G) (P Tory) N Mitchell 6-10-7 ... R Thornton 107
109 121 MANILENO 18 (D,F,S) (S Mercer) M Pipe 3-10-5 ... G Supple 125
110 33556 AFICIONADO 12 (B) (Mrs C Cole) R Hodges 3-10-0 ... J Harris 107

Long handicap: Aficionado 9-6

BETTING: 7-2 Siberian Mystic, 4-1 Manileno, 5-1 Alka International, 7-1 Almapa, 8-1 Bon Voyage, Classic Pal, 10-1 Northern Drums, The Minder, 12-1 others.

1996: MEETING ABANDONED — FROST

FORM FOCUS Northern Drums 3½l 3rd of 7 to Royale Angela in handicap hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, soft), previously 1¼l 2nd of 10 to Gutteridge in novice handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good). Siberian Mystic beat Herman Lad 6l in 8-runner handicap hurdle at Hereford (2m 1f, good) with Bon Voyage (10lb better off) 18l 5th. The Minder beat Friendly House 11l in 16-runner selling hurdle at Taunton (2m 3f 110yd, good). Alka International beat Quango 5l in 4-runner handicap hurdle at Haydock (2m, good to soft) previously 1¼l 2nd of 8 to Sadler's Realm in novice handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m, good to soft). Blade Of Fortune 51l 4th of 7 to Nine O Three in handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good). Almapa 7l 3rd of 6 to A S Jim in handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m, good). Classic Pal beat No Light 4l in 13-runner handicap hurdle at Worcester (2m, good) with Blade Of Fortune (9lb better off) 26l 11th. Manileno beat Miss Ondee 8l in 9-runner 3yo novice hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, heavy). Aficionado 15l 6th of 13 to Zahaahe in novice selling hurdle at Bangor (2m 1f, good).

ALKA INTERNATIONAL hacked up at Haydock and must be followed

1.20 MISTLETOE HANDICAP CHASE (£2,622: 3m) (13 runners)

201 /4002-1 CAMERA MAN 20 (D,G) (Mrs P Shaw) N Henderson 7-11-10 M A Fitzgerald 120
202 4112403 INDIAN RUN 16 (G,S) (P Slade) R Hodges 8-11-5 T Dascombe 115
203 0-333-6 INDIAN DELIGHT 24 (BF) (J & J Richards) M Pipe 7-11-7 C Maude 100
204 2-2644- CRANE HILL 233 (B) (R Hamilton) Simon Earle 7-11-3 L Aspell (3) 87
205 555-2F4 STEEPLE JACK 16 (B,CD,S) (K Bishop) K Bishop 10-11-0 R Greene 107
206 5P0-2P MILLCROFT REGATTA 47 (J Carter) R Alner 5-10-12 R Thornton 101
207 /4651-0 JHAL FREZI 67 (F) (Mrs B Hosley) A Barrow 9-10-12 P Holley 97
208 610/F32 SAXON DUKE 14 (S) (Saxon Duke Partnership) P Hobbs 6-10-10 G Tormey —
209 /500P-5 GREENFIELD GEORGE 34 (D,S) (Mrs V Vigors) P Hobbs 6-10-8 L Harvey 99
210 3P-434P RAGTIME BOY 13 (D,S) (Mrs J Clarke) C Barwell 9-10-6 B Fenton 87
211 P1/243- MOZE TIDY 288P (D,G,S) (D Williams) R Frost 12-10-5 J Frost —
212 P1P-PU5 MOORLOUGH BAY 25 (B,G) (Trojan Partnership) H Howe 7-10-5 B Powell 94
213 U2F5-F4 DUNLIR 194 (F) (B Brereton) P Rodford 7-10-3 S Burrough 89

BETTING: 3-1 Camera Man, 9-2 Saxon Duke, 11-2 Indian Delight, 7-1 Indian Run, 8-1 Steeple Jack, 14-1 Crane Hill, Greenfield George, 16-1 others

FORM FOCUS Camera Man beat Majors Legacy 3l in 13-runner maiden chase at Huntingdon (3m, good), previously 1½l 2nd of 14 to Mon Amie in novice hurdle at Stratford (2m 6f 110yd, good). Indian Run 4½l 2nd of 8 to Galatasori Jane in handicap chase at Taunton (3m, good) with Steeple Jack (same terms) 9½l 4th. Indian Delight a distance 6th of 10 to Market Gossip in novice handicap chase at Hereford (3m 1f 110yd, good). Crane Hill 23l 4th of 10 to Who Am I in novice hurdle at Worcester (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). Jhal Frezi 61l 7th of 9 to Inch Emperor in amateur handicap chase at Ludlow (2m 4f, good to firm). Saxon Duke 1¼l 2nd of 7 to Belmorebruno in novice hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 3f, heavy), previously 15l 3rd of 14 to Torch Vert in novice hurdle at Worcester (3m, soft). Greenfield George 54l 5th of 8 to Dancetillyoudrop in novice handicap chase at Worcester (2m 4f 110yd, soft). Moze Tidy 50l 7th of 13 to On Alert in hunter chase at Taunton (3m, soft). Moorlough Bay 43l 5th of 8 to Into The Clan in novice chase at Windsor (3m, good). Dunlir 33l 4th of 11 to Lucy Of Mine in novice chase at Worcester (2m 7f 110yd, good).

CAMERA MAN has found his form over fences and can shrug off the weight

1.50 HANGOVER SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,900: 3m 110yd) (16 runners)

301 P41125/ SURCOAT 941F (CD,F,S) (G Duckhaven Stud) A D Smith 10-12-0 L Cummins (5) —
302 0122122 MOZEMO 67 (BF,F,G,S) (Cotan Trust Company Ltd) M Pipe 10-11-8 A P McCoy 80
303 6/5435- GAY RUFFIAN 226P (G,S) (Miss C Dyson) Miss C Dyson 11-11-7 Miss C Dyson 70
304 00018-0 CLONGOUR 23 (B,F) (L Melrose) P Hobbs 7-11-7 ... G Tormey 81
305 3PP4FU- MINGUS 319 (F,S) (C Grover) R Buckler 10-11-3 ... J Mcdermott (7) —
306 /01P/P- MONTAGNARD 343 (D,G,S) M Bradstock 13-11-3 ... Kate Hambidge (7) —
307 -064P55 ROSIE-B 18 (CD,G) (Mrs J Waring) L Waring 7-11-2 ... B Powell 74
308 10P4/P4 KREEF 13 (G) (H J S Racing) R Curtis 5-10-13 ... J Parkhouse (7) 66
309 0P-5062 TOP SKIPPER 34 (G,S) (V Greenway) V Greenway 5-10-12 Mr J Tizzard (5) 80
310 2332142 KARICLEIGH BOY 45 (BF,D,F,G,S) (P Rogers) R Frost 9-10-11 T O'Connor (7) 88
311 1U5-540 NODDADANTE 26 (G) (N Mitchell) N Mitchell 7-10-9 ... Sophie Mitchell (5) 77
312 64-4321 VISCOUNT TULLY 7 (G,S) (C Jackson) C Jackson 12-10-8 (7ex) R Thornton 81
313 14054-P URBAN LILY 45 (B,G,S) (Mrs C Cole) R Hodges 7-10-6 ... J Harris (7) 76
314 -501323 SPIRIT LEVEL 14 (F) (J Payne) J R Payne 9-10-6 ... M A Fitzgerald 75
315 34-4552 TELLAPORKY 20 (R Simpson) R Simpson 8-10-6 ... A Bates (5) 83
316 503-024 QUIET MOMENTS 23 (Mrs L Murphy) P Murphy 4-10-5 ... L Aspell (3) 84

BETTING: 5-1 Mozemo, 6-1 Spirit Level, Tellaporky, 7-1 Karicleigh Boy, 8-1 Top Skipper, Viscount Tully, 10-1 Quiet Moments, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS Surcoat 4½l 5th of 8 to Hostile Witness in handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 6f, good to firm). Mozemo 8l 2nd of 9 to Inch Emperor in amateur handicap chase at Ludlow (2m 4f, good to firm) with Tellaporky (16lb better off) 30l 5th. Gay Ruffian 34l 4th of 10 to Perlea Lady in hunter chase at Hereford (3m 1f 110yd, good to firm). Clongour 33l 8th of 11 to Danger Flynn in handicap *hurdle at Towcester (3m, soft). Top Skipper 5l 2nd of 19 to Its Grand in selling handicap hurdle at* Huntingdon (3m 2f, soft) with Viscount Tully (levels) 12l 3rd. Karicleigh Boy 10l 2nd of 9 to Spiral Flyer in novice handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 6f, good to soft). Viscount Tully beat Va Utu 1½l in 17-runner selling handicap hurdle at Ludlow (2m 5f 110yd, good). Urban Lily pulled up in selling handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft). Spirit Level 19l 3rd of 7 to Belmorebruno in novice hurdle at Newton Abbot (3m 3f, heavy). Tellaporky 8l 2nd of 8 to Unsinkable Boxer in novice handicap hurdle at Plumpton (3m 110yd, soft). Quiet Moments 4l 4th of 11 to Lyphard's Fable in novice selling hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, soft).

QUIET MOMENTS was noted staying on last time and the longer trip will suit

2.20 IVY NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,836: 2m 3f) (14 runners)

401 1533-P2 FRIENDLY HOUSE 18 (S) (Mrs S Buckler) M Pipe 8-11-12 A P McCoy 94
402 02P42-5 FINNIGAN FREE 14 (Miss S Rich) G Ham 7-11-10 ... Mr M Frith (7) 89
403 0/33/0U SUPREME FLAME 18 (H Cole) H Cole 7-11-7 T Dascombe —
404 4000-32 WELL ARMED 124F (S) (Toparga Partnership) J Bennett 6-11-7 W McFarland 87
405 4332-13 LUKE WARM 31 (BF,S) (N Stafford) D Gandolfo 7-11-6 ... G Bradley 95
406 003-360 ROVESTAR 32 (B,G) (G Burrell) C Popham 6-11-3 ... Mr J Tizzard (5) 94
407 13-6330 ROSS DANCER 11 (F) (P O'Loughlin) J S Moore 5-11-0 ... J Magee (3) 76
408 21262P INDIAN TEMPLE 18 (CD,F) (D Clarke) K Bishop 6-10-10 ... G Supple (5) 100
409 6212-P3 MIRAMARE 18 (F) (M Smith) A Hobbs 7-10-4 ... B Fenton 87
410 6PF6-5U PURBECK RAMBLER 51 (Miss M Lane) G Balding 6-10-4 ... R Greene 80
411 32-6334 ALL CLEAR 54 (G,S) (J & J Cook) R Alner 6-10-3 ... P Holley 95
412 50/P LISAHANE OATS 12 (J Whelan) A Barrow 7-10-0 ... D Bridgwater —
413 /3U343/ WEST LODGE LADY 1446 (Mrs M Cox) N Thomson 12-10-0 Mr E Babington (7) —
414 /U4-652 PRINCE DE BERRY 13 (R Ahern) G Ham 6-10-0 ... S Burrough 95

Long handicap: Prince De Berry 9-10

BETTING: 11-4 Luke Warm, 5-1 Well Armed, 6-1 Friendly House, 7-1 Prince de Berry, 8-1 All Clear, 12-1 Rovestar, Ross Dancer, Miramare, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS Friendly House 11l 2nd of 16 to The Minder in selling hurdle at Taunton (2m 3f 110yd, good). Finnigan Free 28l 5th of 9 to Well *Timed in handicap chase at Newton Abbot (2m 110yd, heavy).* Well Armed 1½l 2nd of 5 to King Of Shadows in novice handicap chase at Bangor (2m 4f 110yd, good). Luke Warm 8l 3rd of 10 to The Next Waltz in novice handicap chase at Bangor (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). Rovestar 43l 7th of 14 to Jefferies in novice chase at Taunton (2m 3f, good) with Supreme Flame (4lb worse off) 58l 9th. Ross Dancer 52l 7th of 14 to Soakfinz Coze in novice chase at Towcester (2m 6f, soft). Miramare 8l 3rd of 13 to Wrinnow in novice handicap chase at Taunton (2m 3f, good) with Supreme Flame (2lb worse off) unseated rider and Indian Temple (2lb worse off) pulled up. All Clear 18l 4th of 8 to Barnapour in novice handicap chase at Newton Abbot (2m 110yd, *good to firm). Prince De Berry 11l 2nd of 8 to Astral Invasion in novice handicap chase at Hereford* (2m, good).

LUKE WARM is improving and would have gone close but for a mistake last time

2.50 HOLLY TREE NOVICES HURDLE (£3,018: 2m 1f) (14 runners)

501 31 EFFECTUAL 14 (D,S) (B Gross) Miss V Williams 4-11-5 ... S Kelly (7) 121
502 152 KEN RISK 14 (B,F) (J Weeden) M Pipe 5-11-5 ... D Fehrmann 101
503 1 PEKAY 34 (S) (Messrs Nelson & Newman) M Pipe 4-11-5 ... A P McCoy 112
504 303-00 BOZO 17 (B Ryall) B Ryall 6-10-12 ... L Cummins (5) 90
505 P-P FUNNY GENIE 9 (Mrs L Taylor) Mrs L Taylor 4-10-12 ... R Bellamy —
506 00 HALMANERROR 18 (Castlecraft Racing) S McScott 7-10-12 D Bridgwater 78
507 0/P-PP MILESTONE 41 (R Allatt) N Ayliffe 5-10-12 ... Guy Lewis (3) —
508 P ON THE CARDS 18 (West Dorset Racing) P Butler 4-10-12 ... B Powell —
509 /U13P-F ROSEVALLEY 42 (BF,F) (A & J Whiting) M Pipe 7-10-12 ... C Maude 80
510 3243-P0 ROYAL POT BLACK 39 (A Loze) P Hobbs 6-10-12 ... G Tormey 81
511 00-0 PROPER PRIMITIVE 25 (C Drewe) C Drewe 4-10-7 ... P Holley 66
512 REITERATE 502F (Mrs B Sarne) G Balding 4-10-7 ... B Fenton —
513 RUBY TWO SHOES 804F (Tarka Racing) B Millman 4-10-7 ... D Salter (5) —
514 0 SHEILAS DREAM 55 (G Szabo) R Hoare 4-10-7 ... G Shenkin (7) —

BETTING: 8-15 Pekay, 9-2 Effectual, 10-1 Ken Risk, 12-1 Rosevalley, 16-1 Royal Pot Black, 20-1 Halmanerror, 33-1 Bozo, Funny Genie, On The Cards, Reiterate, Ruby Two Shoes, 50-1 others.

FORM FOCUS Effectual beat Ken Risk (7lb better off) a distance in 5-runner novice hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 1f, heavy). Pekay beat Iamus 5l in 11-runner novice hurdle at Worcester (2m, soft). Bozo 25l 9th of 16 to Dawn Leader in novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, good). Royal Pot Black 78l 7th of 13 to Eshken in novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6f, good to soft). Proper Primitive a distance 12th of 16 to Shahrur in novice hurdle at Windsor (2m, good). Sheilas Dream 47l 7th of 11 to King Of The Dawn in novice hurdle at Exeter (2m 1f 110yd, good).

PEKAY can get the better of what amounts to a match with Effectual

3.20 REINDEER NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,078: 2m 3f 110yd) (14 runners)

601 1212131 DAMAS 25 (B,D,F,G,S) (Knight Hawks Partnership) M Pipe 6-12-0 A P McCoy 98
602 2111545 PRIDE OF KASHMIR 25 (CD,F,G) (F & C Berry) P Hobbs 4-11-10 G Tormey 97
603 U1-3640 AMBER SPARK 18 (B,S) (R Brookhurst) D Sandells 6-11-3 ... G Upton 89
604 06-001F MOONRAKER'S MIRAGE 18 (S) (Mrs A Hoare) D Elsworth 6-11-8 P Holley 87
605 04-340 BAVARDIER 17 (Bavardier Partnership) G Balding 6-11-7 ... B Fenton 80
606 P260-0 OVER THE WATER 28 (Doyo Partners) R Alner 5-11-5 ... R Thornton 80
607 3-13023 REACH THE CLOUDS 23 (G) (Woodstream Racing) J Jenkins 5-11-4 G Supple (5) 100
608 FP0/00- CRUISIN ON CREDIT 241 (G Edwards) G Edwards 6-11-0 ... D Salter (5) 65
609 732P-P0 MOONLIGHTER 7 (Gold Top Racing) C Jackson 7-10-9 ... D Burrows (5) 80
610 0-3P06 THE KERRY LEGEND 16 (T Myles) N Chance 4-10-8 ... R Johnson 81
611 4603 OBELOS 46 (T Sanders) R Frost 6-10-7 ... J Frost 84
612 F00-4P1 CATEMPO 3 (S) (E Sanjack) G McCourt 7-10-7 (7ex) ... A Bates (5) 100
613 4504-62 SWAN STREET 24 (Swan Street Partnership) B Llewellyn 5-10-6 J R Kavanagh 98
614 0/42-43 PALACE PARADE 18 (Bideford Tool Ltd) A Hobbs 7-10-5 ... D Bridgwater 90

BETTING: 5-1 Catempo, 6-1 Reach The Clouds, 7-1 Damas, Pride Of Kashmir, 8-1 Moonraker's Mirage, Bavardier, 10-1 Swan Street, 12-1 others

FORM FOCUS Damas beat Call Home 2l in 6-runner amateur handicap chase at Windsor (2m 5f, good). Pride Of Kashmir 12l 5th of 12 to August Twelfth in handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m 4f, good). Bavardier 24l 8th of 16 to Dawn Leader in novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, good). Over The Water a distance 9th of 10 to Silent Cracker in novice hurdle at Folkestone (2m 1f 110yd, good). Reach The Clouds 2¼l 3rd of 13 to Primitive Heart in novice handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). Obelos 1¼l 3rd of 11 to Little Hooligan in selling handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good). Catempo beat Song Of Kenda 8l in 9-runner novice handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good to soft). Swan Street 4l 2nd of 9 to Ds Wallace in novice handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, soft). Palace Parade 11l 3rd of 16 to The Minder in selling hurdle at Taunton (2m 3f 110yd, good).

CATEMPO ought to win this if reproducing his Wincanton form

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wnrs	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
G McCourt	3	10	30.0	J Tizzard	4	14	28.6
M Pipe	49	228	21.5	G Supple	6	31	19.4
P Hobbs	23	109	21.1	D Bridgwater	16	98	16.3
N Henderson	7	34	20.6	R Johnson	3	19	15.8
G Edwards	7	40	17.5	J Kavanagh	5	34	14.7
R Alner	4	35	11.4	C Maude	13	91	14.3

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1.00 Mr Bombastique. 1.30 Seldom But Severe. 2.00 Northern Motto. 2.30 Mr Christie. 3.00 BLUE CHARM (nap). 3.30 *Minisioux.*

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

1.00 BLETHER JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-O: £2,274: 2m) (9 runners)

1 3041 AUDREY'S PEARL 26 (D,G) Mrs M Reveley 11-0 ... P Niven 101
2 15 LITTLE MISS ROCKER 56 (F) A Dickin 11-0 ... D Parker 102
3 3021 SILENT VALLEY 10 (V,D,S) Miss L Siddall 11-0 ... A Thornton 97
4 FEEL A LINE 123F M Hammond 10-12 ... R Garritty —
5 0 I'M STILL HERE 30 J Dixon 10-12 ... B Storey —
6 MONACO 53F R Allan 10-12 ... S Melrose (7) —
7 MR BOMBASTIQUE 215F Mrs J Brown 10-12 ... E Callaghan —
8 00 NERONIAN 30 J Howard Johnson 10-12 ... A S Smith 78
9 P DUBAI NURSE 30 A Dickin 10-7 ... B Supple —

1-2 Audrey's Pearl, 7-1 Silent Valley, 10-1 Little Miss Rocker, Mr Bombastique, 12-1 Feel A Line, 14-1 Monaco, 33-1 I'm Still Here, Neronian, 50-1 Dubai Nurse.

1.30 RUSTY NAIL NOVICES CHASE (£2,856: 3m) (4)

1 UF62 COTTSTOWN BOY 13 Mrs S Bradburne 6-10-12 ... Mr M Bradburne (5) 91
2 5-P2 SELDOM BUT SEVERE 20 (B) E Elliott 7-10-12 J Callaghan 100
3 OVER THE MASTER J Howard Johnson 5-10-11 K Johnson —
4 1P-0 PARSONS GREEN BOY 13 (B,F) W Kemp 5-10-11 ... C McCormack (5) 78

11-8 Cottstown Boy, 7-4 Seldom But Severe, 4-1 Over The Master, 6-1 Parsons Green Boy.

2.00 BUBBLY JOCK MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,306: 2m 4f) (12)

1 24 AMOEBIC 87 M Todhunter 4-11-5 ... C McCormack (5) —
2 34-P BOB'S PLOY 38 Mrs J Brown 5-11-5 ... L Wyer 60
3 0-24 JACK DORY 95 Mrs S Bradburne 5-11-5 Mr M Bradburne (5) 81
4 P MARCUS ROYALE 50 D Lamb 10-11-5 ... J Burke —
5 U-0 NORTHERN MOTTO 43 J Goldie 4-11-5 ... B Storey 108
6 6/0 OVER THE BECK 11 (BF,G) J Jefferson 4-11-5 ... E Callaghan —
7 P0P- SHIP THE BUILDER 212 C Grant 6-11-5 ... R Supple —
8 6 VINDALOO 14 M Johnston 5-11-5 ... D Gallagher 81
9 000 WILLIE HORNE 11 M Todhunter 4-11-5 ... P Niven 60
10 4F00 FINER FEELINGS 28 Mrs D Thomson 5-11-0 ... L O'Hara 70
11 -0P3 HURST FLYER 21 (BF,F) F Murtagh 5-11-0 ... A Dobbin 85
12 0-04 RAG DOLL 21 J Howard Johnson 5-11-0 ... A S Smith 60

3-1 Vindaloo, 9-2 Northern Motto, 11-2 Over The Beck, 7-1 Bob's Ploy, Hurst Flyer, 10-1 Amoebic, Ship The Builder, 14-1 others

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Taunton: 2.20 Rovestar, 2.50 Ken Risk.

2.30 LARGE DRAM HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,723: 3m) (7)

1 41-4 STAN'S YOUR MAN 43 (F) Mrs J Goodfellow 7-12-0 ... Mr S Durack (5) 100
2 12-4 MR CHRISTIE 16 (CD,G,S) Miss L Siddall 5-11-13 A Thornton 102
3 14- INVEST WISELY 251F (BF,C,F) M Hammond 5-11-11 ... R Garritty 80
4 3-0P DUKE OF PERTH 19 (G) J Howard Johnson 6-11-6 A S Smith 97
5 F-PF OAKLEY 13 (F,G) D Smith 8-11-3 ... B Storey 94
6 49-3 YOUNG STEVEN 28 Mrs S Bradburne 6-10-8 ... Mr M Bradburne (5) 83
7 -PU5 ROBARA 19 (F) S Leadbetter 7-10-0 ... B Harding 77

2-1 Stan's Your Man, 11-4 Mr Christie, 5-1 Invest Wisely, 13-2 Young Steven, 7-1 Duke Of Perth, 12-1 Oakley, 20-1 Robara.

3.00 COL. W L M MONTEITH HANDICAP CHASE (£3,496: 3m) (7)

1 1-F1 BLUE CHARM 21 (CD,F,G) Mrs S Bradburne 7-12-0 ... Mr M Bradburne (5) 125
2 -133 TOUGH TEST 21 (D,F,G,S) Mrs J Goodfellow 7-11-6 ... Mr S Durack (5) 120
3 F123 BALLYLINE 13 (BF,D,G,S) W Kemp 6-11-4 ... A Dobbin 116
4 1-4P JUDICIAL FIELD 12 (B,C,F,G,S) N Tinkler 8-11-4 ... B Storey 113
5 312P D'ARBLAY STREET 3 (B,G,S) W Kemp 8-10-12 R McGrath (3) 130
6 4455 MAGIC BLOOM 26 (D,F,G) J Jefferson 11-10-10 E Callaghan 111
7 P134 RUSTY BLADE 21 (B,CD,F,G) P Monteith 8-10-2 ... G McCormack (5) 119

5-2 Blue Charm, 7-2 Tough Test, 4-1 Ballyline, 6-1 D'Arblay Street, Rusty Blade, 10-1 Judicial Field, 14-1 Magic Bloom

3.30 SAIR HEAD STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,159: 2m) (10)

1 31- VALHALLA 240 (D,G) M Todhunter 4-11-11 ... B Harding —
2 6- CAMDEN MOON 335 J Hanson 4-11-4 ... L Wyer —
3 0 FLECKERJORD 16 J Hanson 5-11-4 ... D Gallagher —
4 2 JOE BUZZ 21 F Murphy 5-11-4 ... E Callaghan —
5 2-5 MINISIOUX 21 P Monteith 4-11-4 ... I Jardine (7) —
6 SIGNAL POINT D Lamb 5-11-4 ... J Burke —
7 SNUFF BOX B Mactaggart 4-11-4 ... B Storey —
8 63- WELLSWOOD 245 J Jefferson 4-11-4 ... M Mello (7) —
9 6-6 WHAT A TALE 21 Mrs M Reveley 5-11-4 ... P Niven —
10 MORAINE GIRL Mrs J Goodfellow 4-10-13 ... Mr S Durack (5) —

2-1 Joe Buzz, 7-2 Valhalla, 5-1 Minisioux, 6-1 Wellswood, What A Tale, 10-1 Camden Moon, 25-1 Fleckerjord, 33-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Hammond, 31 winners from 122 runners, 25.4%; Mrs M Reveley, 12 from 52, 23.1%; N Tinkler, 8 from 35, 22.9%; P Monteith, 16 from 78, 20.5%; J Jefferson, 3 from 15, 20.0%; J Howard Johnson, 16 from 104, 15.4%; Mrs S Bradburne, 13 from 90, 14.4%.

JOCKEYS: Mr M Bradburne, 3 winners from 6 rides, 50.0%; D Gallagher, 5 from 13, 38.5%; P Niven, 13 from 66, 19.7%; A S Smith, 5 from 34, 14.7%; D Parker, 4 from 31, 12.9%; B Storey, 17 from 132, 12.9%; A Dobbin, 12 from 95, 12.6%.

☐ Go-Informal, fourth to Paddy's Return at Ascot recently, returns in the Unicoin Homes Spa Hurdle at Cheltenham on Thursday.

SATURDAYS RESULTS

Kempton Park
Going: soft (good to soft in places)
12.40 (2m hdle) 1, Upgrade (C Llewellyn, 25-1); 2, Real Estate (Evens fav); 3, Darc (16-1). 13 ran. NR: Assailable, Vitoso. 9l, nk. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £40.00; £5.80, £1.20, £3.10. DF: £30.90. Trio: £11.70. CSF: £46.47.
1.10 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Edredon Bleu (J Culloty, 3-1); 2, Kadi (5-1). Only two finished. Super Tactics 6-4 fav. 5 ran. 1l. Miss H Knight. Tote: £3.60; £1.70, £2.0. DF: £10.40. CSF: £14.58.
1.45 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Angelo's Double (B Powell, 2-1); Timekeeper's top rating 2, Bay Lough (8-1); 3, Dontleavethenest (5-1). *Hurricane Lamp 5-4 fav. 4 ran. NR: Smith,* Sir Dante. Dist. R Buckler. Tote: £2.. DF: £8.70. CSF: £12.39.
2.20 (2m hdle) 1, Kerawi (C Llewellyn, 4-1); 2, Shadow Leader (15-8); 3, Sesrino (7-4 fav). 5 ran. ¾l, 4l. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £7.70; £1.90, £1.60. DF: £8. CSF: £11.42.
2.55 (3m ch) 1, After Mole (M A Fitzgerald, 9-2); 2, Redeemyourself (5-1); Andre Laval (6-1). Ciel de Brion (4th) 9-4 (6 ran. NR: Oatis Regrets, Orswell Lad. 10l. J Old. Tote: £4.50; £2.40, £2.60. DF: £3.70. CSF: £22.15. Tricast: £108.44.
3.25 (2m 5f hdle) 1, Three Farthings (C Llewellyn, 9-4 fav); 2, Royal Piper (-1); 3, Fire Ball (3-1). 7 ran. 2½l, 18l. J C Tote: £3.10; £2.00, £3.40. DF: £15. CSF: £28.75.
Jackpot: £99,425.20 (part won; pool of £126,031.97 carried forward to union today).
Placepot: £637.30. Quadpot: £0.50.

Chepstow
Going: heavy
12.20 1, Champleve (8-11 fav); Ever Blessed (7-2); 3, The Land Agent (1). 10 ran.
12.50 1, Sparkling Cone (6-5 fav) Well Timed (5-1); 3, Early Drinker (10-1) ran.
1.20 1, Rainwatch (1-2 fav); 2, [illegible]azon (14-1); 3, Kilbride Lad (9-2). 6 r NR: Virtuoso.
1.55 1, Earth Summit (25-1); Dom Samourai (12-1); 3, Samlee (7-1). Iolgo 3-1 fav. 14 ran. NR: Dakyns Boy.
2.30 1, Dr Leunt (6-5 fav); 2, Landearthy (4-1); 3, Strong Paladin (6-1). 5 ran.
3.00 1, Sadler's Realm (2-1 fav); World Express (9-4); 3, Bold Statement (1). 6 ran. NR: Rare Occurance.
3.30 1, Jet Tabs (6-1); 2, Muskhill-2 jt-fav); 3, Irish Banker (5-1). Billy Box 9-fav. 16 ran.

Leicester
Going: soft
1.05 1, Andsuephi (11-10 fav); 2, gent Swift (3-1); 3, Golden Hadeer (11-3 ran.
1.35 1, Fair And Fancy (11-8); 2, Balmoral Princess (20-1); 3, Glow Path (6-1). 10 ran. NR: Royal Hand
2.05 1, Astral Invasion (7-2); 2, Yattarbelievelt (13-2); 3, Cosa Fuair (8-Wayfarers Way 6-5 fav. 5 ran
2.40 1, Shining Light (6-1); 2, Ma Mien (7-2 jt-fav); 3, Sister Rosza (6-1) In 7-2 jt-fav. 8 ran. NR: Garnwin.
3.10 1, Five Flags (7-1); 2, Milmo (11-4 fav); 3, Sharlakandi (7-1) Nwood Poppy 11-4 jt-fav. 9 ran.
3.40 1, Turrill House (3-1); 2, Can Rock (9-2); 3, Zeeti (12-1) Dontdresdinner 2-1 fav. 7 ran. NR: Cointosser.

Wetherby
Going: soft
1.00 1, Bamburgh Boy (7-4 fav); Sirman Conquest (11-1); 3, In The Genes (-1). 9 ran.
1.30 1, Danbys Gorse (7-4 fav) Desert Brave (11-2); 3, Broadwater Boy (-2). 5 ran. NR: Dawn Mission.
2.00 1, Campaign (4-1); 2, Greaseby (11-4); 3, Hit The Canvas (16-1). Ana 9-4 fav. 8 ran.
2.35 1, Viking Flagship (4-9 fav; Lord Dorcet (7-2); 3, Down The Fell (3) 4 ran. NR: Ask Tom.
3.05 1, Share Options (15-2); Sevilla Again (8-2); 3, Feels Like G (3-1). Sounds Fyne 6-4 fav. 7 ran.
3.35 1, Kay Grip (12-1); 2, Fore Noble (9-2); 3, The Butterwick Kid (9-4 f) 9 ran. NR: China King.

JUMP LEADER

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unpl	Level stake
M Pipe	122	73	36	2	-33.24
D Nicholson	69	39	35	2	+3.76
Mrs M Reveley	43	25	22	12	-89.83
P Hobbs	39	32	30	2	-75.16
P Nicholls	38	24	20	3	-36.45
Mrs S Smith	29	36	34	2	-22.12

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Unpl	Level stake
A P McCoy	157	93	54	2	-32.93
A Maguire	82	53	41	19	-4.23
R Dunwoody	61	48	34	0	-51.64
R Johnson	58	74	35	1	-58.67
M A Fitzgerald	55	39	31	1	-73.49
A Thornton	45	38	50	4	-45.09

Enter league win £1C

هكذا من الإصل

Enter the league and win £10,000

There's less than a week to enter a team for the new FA Cup league

A £10,000 prize is up for grabs for the winner of the brand-new FA Cup league, a league within the ITF, which begins this Saturday with the most romantic day in the football calendar — the third round in England and Wales.

Entrants to ITF will automatically spire points in the FA Cup league when the players in their team compete in the FA/Tennents Cup rounds. English Premiership players will begin the knock-out this Saturday and January 24 sees the start of the Tennents Cup round involving Scottish premier division teams.

This is your chance to choose a team specifically for the FA Cup league. All players start scoring when the cup rounds involving English and Scottish premier divisions begin. All teams will be allocated transfers to use at their own discretion.

Any team in the ITF before 12 noon on December 13 received 20 extra transfers in addition to their present allocation. From now on, all new teams will receive 20 transfers for the duration of the season. Postal entries must be received by tomorrow, Tuesday, and telephone entries by 10am on Saturday January 3 in order to score points from the beginning of the FA Cup league competition. Entrants must be 18 years or over.

By competing in the FA Cup league, your players will automatically score points for matches played in the English and Scottish premier divisions during the 1997-98 football season as well and, if appropriate, in the mini leagues.

By scoring points in the ITF, your team could win the monthly prizes of £1,000, a signed Mitre football, a Mitre sports bag and a pair of tickets to a premier league match by scoring the most points in any one month. The mini league (student's and women's) also carry monthly prizes.

PREMIERSHIP CLUBS IN FA CUP DRAW



ITF Terms and conditions: 1. You must enter through the media channel you wish to play by. 2. Entries must comply with the specifications of the team, as listed right. 3. There is no limit to the number of entries a person or household may make. 4. No responsibility is accepted for late or lost entries due to circumstances beyond our control. Illegible, inaccurate or incomplete entries are null and void with no refund. The computer's record of its copy will be considered to be the entry. 5. The ITF comprises a decision is final regarding all aspects of ITF. 6. Telephone entries and transfers are made by Touch-tone (DTMF) telephones only (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). 7. Promotional and explanatory copy relating to The Times/The Sunday Times ITF in association with LineOne, the Internet and Sky Sports Interactive. 8. Players who are not selected at the end of January and March. 9. Official updated players/managers lists will be published in The Times. 10. The top prize goes to the owner of the team scoring the most points in the FA Cup league. In the event of there being more than one winner, a tiebreak will operate. The runner-up monthly prizes. 11. The top prize for the main ITF game goes to the entrant whose team scores the most points throughout the 1997-98 football season. There are also second and third place prizes. In the event of there being more than one winner in any of these positions, a tiebreak will operate. 12. The manager of the month prize will go to the entrant whose team scores the most points in any one month. This applies to the main ITF game, the mini leagues and the internet league. In the event of there being more than one league winner, a winner will be chosen at random. 13. No team will be eligible to win a prize unless they have stocked by the competition rules. 14. Scores will count for the English and Scottish premier division and FA Cup/Tennents Cup matches in English and Scottish premier division teams by matches for the 1997-98 season. 15. Calls for entries should last approximately eight minutes. Calls cost 50p per minute. Calls from pay phones cost approximately double. 16. The competition is not open to employees of News International, BSkyB, their relatives, agents or agents' wives. 17. If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You may adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points. 18. Full explanation on how your players will score points, how to transfer and how to check your score and position in the leagues printed every week in The Times. 19. You may also enter a new team by LineOne, the Internet (call 0500 14 210 for details) and by Sky Sports Interactive (Sky Text page 148).



HOW TO ENTER YOUR TEAM

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL ENTRANTS

TEAM NAME _____ (Up to 16 characters)

Goalkeeper _____
Full back _____
Full back _____
Central defender _____
Central defender _____
Midfielder _____
Midfielder _____
Midfielder _____
Midfielder _____
Striker _____
Striker _____
Manager _____

First Name _____
Surname _____
Address _____
Postcode _____ Daytime Tel _____
Cheque / PO No. _____

This year ITF incorporates separate mini leagues. Please tick the correct league(s) for your entry.
☐ Women's League ☐ Student League

Entrants must be 18 or over to play in the ITF league, the Women's league and the Students' league.

Which age group are you? (TICK BOX) 18-24 ☐ 25-34 ☐ 35-44 ☐ 45-54 ☐ 55-64 ☐ 65+ ☐

How often do you read The Sunday Times? Less than once a month ☐ 1-2 times a month ☐ 3-4 times a month ☐

How often do you read The Times? Less than once a week ☐ 1-3 times a week ☐ 4-6 times a week ☐

Do you have a PC at home? Yes ☐ No ☐

If you do not wish to receive other offers from Times Newspapers, please tick box ☐

Send your entry with £2 entry fee (entrants outside the UK or Rep of Ireland £10 sterling) to: The Times Interactive Team Football, Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 1ZZ.

GOALKEEPERS

Code	Name	Team	Price £m
10101	J Leighton	Aberdeen	2.00
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.00
10401	D Watson	Barnsley	1.00
10501	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.50
10601	K Branagan	Bolton Wanderers	1.50
10701	S Kerr	Celtic	4.00
10702	J Gould	Celtic	3.50
10801	E De Goey	Chelsea	3.00
10901	S Oggleovic	Coventry City	1.50
11001	C Nash	Crystal Palace	0.25
11002	K Miller	Crystal Palace	2.00
11101	M Poom	Derby County	1.50
11201	S Dykstra	Dundee United	2.00
11301	I Westerlee	Dunfermline	1.00
11401	N Southall	Everton	2.00
11501	G Rousset	Hearts	3.50
11601	C Reid	Hibernian	1.50
11602	O Gottskalksson	Hibernian	1.50
11701	D Lukovic	Kilmarnock	1.00
11801	N Martyn	Leeds United	3.50
11901	K Keller	Leicester City	3.00
12001	D James	Liverpool	3.50
12101	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00
12201	S Howie	Motherwell	1.00
12301	S Given	Newcastle United	3.00
12401	A Goram	Rangers	5.00
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00
12601	P Jones	Southampton	1.00
12701	A Main	St Johnstone	0.50
12801	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50
12901	L Miklosko	West Ham United	2.00
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	2.50

FULL BACKS

Code	Name	Team	Price £m
20201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00
20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00
20203	E Pulis	Arsenal	3.00
20301	S Staunton	Aston Villa	2.50
20302	A Wright	Aston Villa	2.50
20303	S Greyson	Aston Villa	2.00
20304	F Nelson	Aston Villa	2.00
20401	M Eadon	Barnsley	0.50
20402	N Thompson	Barnsley	0.50
20403	D Barnard	Barnsley	1.00
20502	J Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
20503	P Vidmar	Blackburn Rovers	2.50
20601	M Cox	Bolton Wanderers	2.00
21901	M Whitbread	Bolton Wanderers	1.50
20602	R Elliott	Bolton Wanderers	2.00
20603	J Phillips	Bolton Wanderers	1.00
20701	T Boyd	Celtic	3.50
20702	T McKinlay	Celtic	3.50
20703	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00
20801	G Le Saux	Chelsea	4.00
20901	D Petrescu	Chelsea	4.00
20902	C Sabbarro	Chelsea	2.00
20903	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00
20901	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.00
20903	M Hall	Coventry City	1.00
20904	R Nilsson	Coventry City	1.00
21001	D Gordon	Crystal Palace	1.50
21002	M Edworthy	Crystal Palace	1.50
21004	J Smith	Crystal Palace	1.50
21101	C Powell	Derby County	1.00
21102	D Yates	Derby County	1.50
21103	G Rowett	Derby County	2.50
21401	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	1.50
21402	E Barrett	Everton	1.50
21403	T Phelan	Everton	1.50
21404	M Ward	Everton	1.50
21501	G Locke	Hearts	1.00
21701	D Kerr	Kilmarnock	2.50
21901	S Kelly	Leeds United	2.50
21902	D Robertson	Leeds United	2.50
21903	S Guppy	Leicester City	3.00
22001	S Bjornebye	Liverpool	3.00
22002	J McAteer	Liverpool	3.00
22003	R Jones	Liverpool	4.00
22101	D Irwin	Manchester United	3.50
22102	G Neville	Manchester United	3.50
22103	P Neville	Manchester United	3.00
22301	S Watson	Newcastle United	2.00
22302	W Barton	Newcastle United	2.00
22303	J Barnard	Newcastle United	3.00
22304	S Pearce	Newcastle United	3.00
22401	A Cleland	Rangers	3.00
22402	S Stanton	Rangers	2.00
22501	P Stonham	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00
22502	I Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50
22701	J Dodd	Southampton	0.75
22702	F Benali	Southampton	0.75
22703	S Charlton	Southampton	2.00
22901	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
22902	J Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
22903	S Carr	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00
23001	J Dicks	West Ham United	1.50
23002	A Impey	West Ham United	2.00
23003	T Breacker	West Ham United	2.00
23001	B Thatcher	Wimbledon	2.00
23002	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	2.00
23003	A Kimble	Wimbledon	2.00

CENTRAL DEFENDERS

Code	Name	Team	Price £m
30101	B O'Neil	Aberdeen	2.00
30201	T Adams	Arsenal	3.00
30202	M Keown	Arsenal	3.00
30203	G Grimandi	Arsenal	2.00
30204	S Bould	Arsenal	3.00
30301	G Southgate	Aston Villa	3.00
30302	U Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.00
30401	A De Zeeuw	Barnsley	1.00
30402	A Moses	Barnsley	0.50
30403	M Appleby	Barnsley	0.50
30502	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
30504	S Henchoz	Blackburn Rovers	2.50
30505	T Pedersen	Blackburn Rovers	2.00
30601	G Taggart	Bolton Wanderers	1.50
30602	G Bergsson	Bolton Wanderers	1.00
30603	C Fairclough	Bolton Wanderers	1.00
30604	M Fish	Bolton Wanderers	1.50
30701	E Annoni	Celtic	1.50
30702	M MacKay	Celtic	3.00
30703	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.00
30704	M Rieper	Celtic	3.00
30801	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	3.00
30802	M Duberry	Chelsea	3.00
30803	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.50
30804	S Lambourde	Chelsea	2.50
30901	L Dalah	Coventry City	1.50
30902	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50
30903	P Williams	Coventry City	1.50
31001	A Roberts	Crystal Palace	1.50
31002	A Linighan	Crystal Palace	0.75
31003	D Tuttle	Crystal Palace	0.75
31004	H Hreidarsson	Crystal Palace	1.00
31101	I Stimac	Derby County	2.50
31102	J Laursen	Derby County	1.50
31201	S Pressley	Dundee United	2.00
31301	G Shiaida	Dunfermline	1.50
31401	S Bilic	Everton	2.50
31402	D Watson	Everton	2.00
31404	C Tiler	Everton	1.50
31501	D Weir	Hearts	2.00
31601	J Hughes	Hibernian	3.00
31801	D Wetherall	Leeds United	2.50
31802	G Halle	Leeds United	2.00
31803	R Molenaar	Leeds United	2.00
31804	L Radebe	Leeds United	3.00
31901	M Elliott	Leicester City	3.50
31902	F Kamanik	Leicester City	2.00
31903	S Walsh	Leicester City	2.50
31904	S Prior	Leicester City	2.00
32001	M Wright	Liverpool	3.00
32002	D Matteo	Liverpool	3.00
32003	B Kvarme	Liverpool	3.00
32001	H Berg	Manchester United	3.50
32101	D May	Manchester United	3.50
32102	G Pallister	Manchester United	3.50
32301	P Albert	Newcastle United	2.50
32302	D Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00
32303	S Howey	Newcastle United	2.00
32304	A Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00
32401	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	3.50
32402	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50
32403	L Amoruso	Rangers	3.50
32404	R Gough	Rangers	4.00
32501	D Waller	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00
32502	J Newsome	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00
32503	P Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00
32701	R Dryden	Southampton	1.00
32702	C Lundekvam	Southampton	1.00
32704	K Monkou	Southampton	1.00
32801	S McCluskey	St Johnstone	0.50
32901	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50
32902	J Scales	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50
32903	R Vega	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
32904	C Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
32901	R Ferdinand	West Ham United	2.50
32902	R Hall	West Ham United	2.00
31403	D Unsworth	West Ham United	2.00
32903	S Potts	West Ham United	1.50
32904	I Pearce	West Ham United	2.00
33001	C Perry	Wimbledon	2.50
33002	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	2.50

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	Price £m
40101	E Jess	Aberdeen	2.00
40102	P Bernard	Aberdeen	2.00
40201	M Overmars	Arsenal	5.50
40202	P Vieira	Arsenal	3.50
40203	S Hughes	Arsenal	2.00
40204	R Parlour	Arsenal	2.50
40205	D Platt	Arsenal	1.50
40301	M Draper	Aston Villa	3.00
40302	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.50
40401	N Redfearn	Barnsley	3.00
40402	E Tinkler	Barnsley	2.00
40403	D Sheridan	Barnsley	1.00
40404	M Bullock	Barnsley	0.50
40501	J Wilcox	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
40502	B McKinlay	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
40503	T Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
40504	G Flitcroft	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
40601	A Thompson	Bolton Wanderers	2.50
40602	S Sellars	Bolton Wanderers	2.00
40603	P Frandsen	Bolton Wanderers	2.00
40604	M Johansen	Bolton Wanderers	2.00
40605	J Pollock	Bolton Wanderers	2.00
40701	A Thom	Celtic	4.50
40702	P O'Donnell	Celtic	3.00
42503	R Bitsker	Celtic	3.00
40704	C Burley	Celtic	3.00
40705	P Lambert	Celtic	3.00
40801	D Wise	Chelsea	3.50
40802	R Di Matteo	Chelsea	4.00
40803	E Newton	Chelsea	1.50
40804	G Poyet	Chelsea	3.00
40901	G McAllister	Coventry City	2.50
40902	T Soltvedt	Coventry City	1.50
40903	J Salako	Coventry City	1.50
40904	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50
41002	S Rodger	Crystal Palace	1.00
41003	D Pitcher	Crystal Palace	0.25
41004	P Warhurst	Crystal Palace	1.50
41005	A Lombardo	Crystal Palace	3.00
41101	A Asanovic	Derby County	2.50
41102	S Eranio	Derby County	3.50
41103	D Powell	Derby County	1.50
41104	C Dailly	Derby County	1.50
41105	R Van Der Laan	Derby County	1.00
41106	J Hunt	Derby County	1.00
41201	R Winters	Dundee United	3.50
41301	A Smith	Dunfermline	3.50
41401	G Speed	Everton	3.50
41402	J Parkinson	Everton	1.50
41403	G Farrelly	Everton	1.50
41404	D Williamson	Everton	2.00
41405	J Oster	Everton	2.50
41501	N McCann	Hearts	3.50
41601	C Jackson	Hibernian	2.00
41602	B Lavety	Hibernian	2.00
41701	J McIntyre	Kilmarnock	2.00
41001	D Hopkin	Leeds United	3.50
41801	L Bowyer	Leeds United	3.00
41802	A Healand	Leeds United	2.00
41803	L Sharpe	Leeds United	2.50
41804	B Ribeiro	Leeds United	2.50
41901	G Parker	Leicester City	2.00
41902	N Lennon	Leicester City	2.00
41903	M Izzet	Leicester City	2.00
41904	S Taylor	Leicester City	1.50
42001	S Mollenaerean	Liverpool	6.00
42002	O Leonhardsen	Liverpool	3.00
42003	M Thomas	Liverpool	3.00
42004	J Redknapp	Liverpool	3.00
42006	P Inca	Liverpool	4.00
42101	D Beckham	Manchester United	8.00
42102	R Giggs	Manchester United	7.00
42103	R Keane	Manchester United	5.00
42104	N Butt	Manchester United	4.00
42105	A Cole	Manchester United	7.00
42201	B Davies	Motherwell	2.00
42301	R Lee	Newcastle United	5.00
42302	K Gillespie	Newcastle United	3.50
42303	D Batty	Newcastle United	2.50
42005	J Barnes	Newcastle United	3.00
42401	B Laudrup	Rangers	6.50
42402	P Gascoigne	Rangers	6.00
42403	J Thern	Rangers	3.00
42404	J Albertz	Rangers	4.00
42501	B Carbone	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00
42701	J Magilton	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00
42502	M Pembridge	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00
42504	G Hyde	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00
42505	G Whittingham	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50
42702	R Slater	Southampton	0.75
42704	K Richardson	Southampton	0.50
42705	C Palmer	Southampton	2.00
42706	M Oakley	Southampton	1.50
42801	A Stavrieglu	St Johnstone	0.75
42901	A Sinton	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00
42902	D Anderton	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00
42903	R Fox	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
42904	D Howells	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
42905	D Ginola	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00
42901	E Berkovic	West Ham United	2.50
42902	S Lomas	West Ham United	2.50
42903	J Moncur	West Ham United	2.00
43001	R Earle	Wimbledon	4.00
43002	N Ardley	Wimbledon	2.00
43003	V Jones	Wimbledon	2.00
42904	M Hughes	Wimbledon	2.00
43004	C Hughes	Wimbledon	1.50

STRIKERS

Code	Name	Team	Price £m
50101	B Dodds	Aberdeen	4.00
50201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.50
50202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	8.50
50301	D Yorke	Aston Villa	8.00
50302	S Collymore	Aston Villa	5.00
50303	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	3.00
50401	G Hristov	Barnsley	1.50
50402	J Hendrie	Barnsley	1.50
51102	A Ward	Barnsley	2.00
50403	C Marcelle	Barnsley	1.00
50501	K Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	5.50
50502	M Dahlin	Blackburn Rovers	4.00
50503	C Sutton	Blackburn Rovers	6.00
50602	N Blake	Bolton Wanderers	3.50
50603	P Beardsley	Bolton Wanderers	2.00
53003	O Holdsworth	Bolton Wanderers	3.00
51601	D Jackson	Celtic	4.00
50703	T Johnson	Celtic	2.50
50704	S Donnelly	Celtic	4.50
50705	H Larsson	Celtic	4.50
50801	G Zola	Chelsea	7.00
50802	M Hughes	Chelsea	5.00
50901	D Dublin	Coventry City	5.00
50902	D Huckerby	Coventry City	2.50
50903	N Whelan	Coventry City	2.00
51001	N Shipperley	Crystal Palace	1.50
51003	B Dyer	Crystal Palace	2.00
51004	M Hreidarsson	Crystal Palace	2.50
51101	D Sturridge	Derby County	4.00
51103	F Baiano	Derby County	4.50
51104	D Burton	Derby County	1.50
51105	P Wanchope	Derby County	3.50
51201	A McLaren	Dundee United	3.00
51202	K Olafsson	Dundee United	4.00
51301	G Britton	Dunfermline	2.00
51401	D Ferguson	Everton	4.00
51402	N Barmby	Everton	3.00
51404	D Cadamarteri	Everton	2.50
51501	J Robertson	Hearts	3.50
51502	J Hamilton	Hearts	3.00
51602	S Crawford	Hibernian	3.00
51701	P Wright	Kilmarnock	5.00
51702	A Mitchell	Kilmarnock	2.50
51801	J Hasselbaink	Leeds United	3.00
51803	R Wallace	Leeds United	3.50
51804	H Kewell	Leeds United	2.00
51801	S Claridge	Leicester City	2.50
51902	E Heskey	Leicester City	4.50
51903	I Marshall	Leicester City	2.50
51904	G Fenton	Leicester City	2.00
52001	R Fowler	Liverpool	9.00
52002	P Berger	Liverpool	3.00
52003	K Riedle	Liverpool	4.50
52004	M Owen	Liverpool	4.50
52101	O Solskjaer	Manchester United	7.50
52102	T Sheringham	Manchester United	7.00
52103	P Scholes	Manchester United	6.00
52201	O Coyle	Motherwell	3.00
52202	T Coyne	Motherwell	3.00
52301	A Shearer	Newcastle United	10.00
52303	F Asprilla	Newcastle United	6.00
52304	J Tomasson	Newcastle United	2.00
52401	M Negri	Rangers	8.50
52402	S Rozental	Rangers	3.50
52403	G Durie	Rangers	3.00
52501	A Booth	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00
52702	P Di Canio	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00
52503	R Humphreys	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00
52701	M Le Tissier	Southampton	7.00
52502	D Hirst	Southampton	2.50
52702	E Ostenstad	Southampton	4.00
52704	K Davies	Southampton	3.50
52801	G O'Boyle	St Johnstone	1.50
52802	R Grant	St Johnstone	1.00
52801	S Iversen	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50
52302	L Ferdinand	Tottenham Hotspur	7.50
52802	C Armstrong	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50
52803	J Dominguez	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00
52901	J Hartson	West Ham United	4.50
52902	P Kitson	West Ham United	3.00
52903	I Dowie	West Ham United	1.50
53001	M Gayle	Wimbledon	4.00
53002	E Ekoku	Wimbledon	4.00
53004	C Cort	Wimbledon	3.00

MANAGERS

Code	Name	Team	Price £m
60102	A Miller	Aberdeen	1.50
60201	A Wenger	Arsenal	5.00
60301	B Little	Aston Villa	2.50
60401	D Wilson	Barnsley	0.50
60501	R Hodgson	Blackburn Rovers	3.50
60601	C Todd	Bolton Wanderers	1.50
60701	W Jansen	Celtic	4.00
60801	R Gullit	Chelsea	3.50
60901	G Strachan	Coventry City	1.00
61001	S Coppell	Crystal Palace	0.75
61101	J Smith	Derby County	2.50
61201	T McLean	Dundee United	2.00
61301	B Paton	Dunfermline	1.00
61401	H Kendall	Everton	2.00
61501	J Jefferies	Hearts	3.50
61601	J Duffy	Hibernian	2.00
61701	B Williamson	Kilmarnock	1.00
61801	G Graham	Leeds United	3.00
61901	M O'Neill	Leicester City	2.50
62001	R Evans	Liverpool	3.00
62101	A Ferguson	Manchester United	5.00
62201	A McLeish	Motherwell	1.00
62301	K Dalglish	Newcastle United	4.00
62401	W Smith	Rangers	5.00
62502	R Atkinson	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50
62701	D Jones	Southampton	0.50
62801	P Sturrock	St Johnstone	0.50
62802	C Gross	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
62901	H Redknapp	West Ham United	2.00
63001	J Kinnear	Wimbledon	2.00

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Importance of observing time limits

Arbuthnot Latham Bank Ltd v Trafalgar Holdings Ltd and Others
Chishty Coveney and Co v Raja

Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Waller and Lord Justice Robert Walker

[Judgment December 16]

Pending the introduction of case flow management by the courts in April 1999, the importance of litigants observing the time limits specified by the Rules of the Supreme Court and the County Court Rules was emphasised by the Court of Appeal.

In the first case the court allowed an appeal by the second and third defendants, Peter John Ashton and Pauline Hilda Ashton, representatives of the first defendant, Trafalgar Holdings Ltd, against the dismissal by Sir Ronald Waterhouse, sitting as a High Court judge on July 31, 1996, of their summons to strike out an action which had been brought against them by the plaintiffs, Arbuthnot Latham Bank Ltd.

In the second case the court refused an application by Chishty Coveney & Co, a firm of accountants, for leave to appeal from the dismissal by Judge Roger Cox, sitting as a deputy judge of the High Court on July 28, 1997, of their appeal against an order of Master Hodgson of August 11, 1996 of their actions against the defendant, Ibrahim Khan Raja.

First case: Mr Mark Strachan, QC and Mr Peter Knox for the defendants: Mr Terence Mowschenson, QC and Mr Anthony de Garr Robinson for the plaintiffs.

Second case: Mr Justin Althaus for the applicants.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the issue in both cases was the appropriateness of the court striking out an action where there had been considerable delay if:

(i) the cause of action relied upon by the plaintiff in the proceedings would be statute barred if the action were to be struck out, but (ii) the plaintiff had another cause of action upon which he had not so far relied for recovering money or property which was the subject matter of the existing action and that cause of action was subject to a longer limitation period which had not expired, and (iii) if the original action was struck out, the probabilities were that fresh proceedings would be commenced which would rely upon the cause of action which was not statute barred.

Although there was a continuous stream of satellite litigation coming before the courts over the issue of delay, the main principles applicable were now clearly established.

The starting point was invariably *Birkett v James* ([1978] AC 297) but by setting out principles there the House of Lords was not acquiescing in delay. They indicated that the court should exercise such powers as they had to ensure that the action was pursued with diligence.

In *Department of Transport v Chris Smaller (Transport) Ltd* ([1989] AC 1197) Lord Griffiths identified the advantages which could accrue from a civil procedural process which was subject to court controlled case management techniques. That process was now being introduced. The new unified rules were intended to come into force in April 1999.

However, many aspects of the process could be introduced while the existing Rules of the Supreme Court and County Court Rules were in force. Most of the powers which the court required for the purposes of case management were already contained in the existing rules.

The gradual change to a managed system which was taking place did impose additional burdens upon the courts, involving the need for training and the introduction of the necessary technological infrastructure.

It was therefore in the interests of litigants as a whole that the court's time was not unnecessarily absorbed in dealing with the satellite litigation which was created by non-compliance with the timetables laid down in the rules.

In *Birkett v James* the consequence of inordinate delay was not a consideration which was in issue. From now on it was going to be a consideration of increasing significance.

Litigants and their legal advisers had therefore to recognise that in the future any delay which occurred would be assessed not only from the point of view of the prejudice caused to the particular litigants whose case it was, but also in relation to other litigants and the prejudice which was caused to the due administration of justice.

The existing rules contained time limits which were designed to achieve the disposal of litigation within a reasonable time scale. Those rules should be observed.

It was already recognised by *Grovitt v Doctor* (*The Times* April 25, 1997; [1997] 1 WLR 640) that to continue litigation with no intention to bring it to a conclusion could amount to an abuse of process.

The change in culture which was already taking place would enable courts to recognise for the future, more readily than heretofore, that a wholesale disregard of the rules was an abuse of process.

While an abuse of process could be within the first category identified in *Birkett v James*, it was also a separate ground for striking out or staying an action, which did not depend on the need to show prejudice to the defendant or that a fair trial was no longer possible.

Ready recognition that wholesale failure as such to comply with the rules justified an action being struck out, as long as it was fair to do so, would save much time and expense relating to questions of prejudice, and allow the striking out of actions whether or not the limitation period had expired.

The question whether a fresh action could be commenced would then be a matter for the discretion of the court when considering any application to strike out that action, and any excuse given for the misconduct of the previous action.

In exercising its discretion whether to strike out the second action, the court should start with the assumption that if a party had had one action struck out for abuse of process some special reason had to be identified to justify a second action being allowed to proceed.

It had been the unofficial practice of banks and others who were faced with a multitude of debtors from whom they were seeking to recover moneys, to initiate a great many actions and then select which of them to pursue at any particular time. That practice should cease in so far as it was taking place without the consent of the court or other parties.

Whereas hitherto it might have been arguable that to, in effect, "warehouse" proceedings until it was convenient to pursue them did not constitute an abuse of process, in future that should no longer be the practice. It led to stale proceedings which brought the litigation process into disrespect.

As case flow management was introduced, it would involve the courts becoming involved in proceedings to find out why the action was not being progressed. If the claimant had for the time being no intention to pursue the action that would be a wasted effort.

Finding out the reasons for the lack of activity in proceedings would unnecessarily take up the time of the court. If proceedings were not going to be pursued in accordance with the rules they should not be brought.

If they were brought and were not to be advanced, consideration should be given to their discontinuance or the authority of the court obtained for their being adjourned generally.

The court existed to assist parties to resolve disputes and they should be used by litigants for that purpose.

The new approach would not be applied retrospectively to delays which had already occurred but it would apply to future delay.

Solicitors: Sheridans: Coldham Shield & Mace, Walthamstow; Aslam & Co.

Whether floating house is a houseboat

Sussex Investments Ltd v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another

Before Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Robert Walker and Mr Justice Harman

[Judgment December 18]

As a matter of law a houseboat need not be boat-shaped.

But it was a question of fact and degree whether a craft consisting of a low rectangular platform with a two-storey, prefabricated building erected on it diverged so far from the typical as no longer to merit the description "houseboat".

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by the applicant, Sussex Investments Ltd, against Judge Rich, QC, sitting as a High Court judge on October 28, 1996, who had dismissed in part the company's appeal against an order issued by the first respondent, the Secretary of State for the Environment, on November 10, 1995 for the enforcement of an established use certificate issued by the second respondent, Spelthorne Borough Council, relating to the use of land at the Towpath, Ryepeck Meadow, Chertsey Road, Shepperton.

Mr John Howell, QC, for the appellant; Mr Alun Alesbury for the secretary of state.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT WALKER said the primary issue in the appeal was the meaning of the expression "residential houseboats" in an established use certificate issued by Spelthorne Borough Council on October 21, 1987. The certificate permitted the use of the land "for mooring of nine residential houseboats".

In 1991 three new craft were for the first time moored off the towpath. Two had since been removed, but the third, named Sunbeam II, was still at its mooring.

The enforcement notice complained of an unauthorised change of use "to a mixed use for mooring residential houseboats and stationary floating platforms on one of which a prefabricated wooden dwelling-house is affixed".

The secretary of state's inspector had referred to the *Shorter Oxford English Dictionary* definition of houseboat: "A boat roofed over and fitted up as a house, for living in."

The inspector had also referred to the definition of a boat: "1 A small open vessel, usually propelled by oars, though sometimes by a sail ... Extended to fishing vessels, mail packets, and small steamers (sometimes also to large ocean steamers) 2 A vessel or utensil like a boat in shape as a sauce boat, an incense boat."

The inspector had treated the test as being whether Sunbeam II would be recognisable as a boat to the man in the street. He thought that Sunbeam II would be seen as a two-storey house standing on a floating platform, and not as a boat. He concluded as a matter of fact and degree, that Sunbeam II was not a houseboat. The secretary of state had reached the same conclusion for essentially the same reasons.

The judge had said that the meaning of an ordinary word was a matter of law. That was questionable.

He had concluded: "A house built on a floating platform which does not have a boat-like shape, is not in my judgment, a houseboat, even if it may be capable of navigation."

The expression "boat-shaped" was imprecise but it conveyed the general idea of curved, elongated container, tapering at the ends and sometimes tapering more at one end than the other. Not every craft recognisable as a boat had that shape.

Mr Howell had submitted that there was no reason in principle why the superstructure of a residential houseboat should not look like a house, given that its function was to provide residential accommodation on water. But that might be met by the counter-argument that the more a houseboat looked like a house, the less it looked like a boat, as Mr Alesbury had in effect submitted.

It was only true in a limited sense that the true meaning of a pair of ordinary words in a legal document was a question of law. When the court was faced with an ordinary word which could be used in a variety of shades of meaning, it was not for the court to try to conjure out of thin air some precise definition such as might be found in a statute.

In principle, since the court was assumed to know the English language, it did not admit evidence as to the meaning of ordinary words, as opposed to non-legal technical terms.

But there were obvious difficulties in making any sharp distinction between ordinary and technical terms. A judge who read Greats and whose pastime was riding would have a different perception of what was technical and what was ordinary from that of a judge who read chemistry and whose pastime was sailing.

The judge had been wrong in so far as he thought he had to provide, as the answer to a question of law, a precise definition of "houseboat": He was wrong to take the view that as a matter of law a houseboat must be boat-shaped.

But a craft consisting of a low rectangular floating platform with a two-storey prefabricated building erected on it differed from a typical houseboat in much more than the shape of its hull.

It might diverge so far from the typical as no longer to merit the description "houseboat" as that expression would normally be used. Whether it did so was a question of fact or degree. It was a jury question.

The essential point was whether the secretary of state had misdirected himself in approaching or answering that jury question. His approach was not wholly impeccable, tending to be over-analytical and to attach too much importance to the dictionary definitions.

But his conclusion was unassailable in point of law. The appeal would be dismissed and the cross-appeal allowed.

Lord Justice Hirst and Mr Justice Harman agreed.

Solicitors: Simon Jackson, Bermondsey; Treasury Solicitor.

Limit to scope of absolute privilege rule

Waple v Surrey County Council

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Brooke and Sir Brian Neill

[Judgment December 17]

In actions for libel the courts should be slow to extend the scope of the rule about absolute privilege granted to statements made in connection with judicial or quasi-judicial proceedings. The privilege was not to apply to communications by local authority officers seeking to recover maintenance contributions under the powers given to them in Part III of Schedule 2 to the Children Act 1989.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Mrs Wendy Waple, from the order of Mr Justice French ([1997] 2 All ER 836) striking out her writ in defamation proceedings against the defendants, Surrey County Council.

The plaintiff and her husband, the adoptive parents of a child, requested the defendants to place him with foster parents. Following his placement the husband was served with a provisional notice of assessment requiring him to make contributions for the child's maintenance.

The alleged libel was contained in a letter to the plaintiff by a solicitor employed by the defendants that was written in the course of attempts to agree payment of a weekly sum for the child.

The defendants' claim included a plea that the letter was written on an occasion of absolute privilege and they applied for the plaintiff's writ in the action to be struck out as disclosing no cause of action or on the grounds that the proceedings were frivolous and vexatious.

Mr Timothy Atkinson for the plaintiff; Mr Frank Panford for the council.

LORD JUSTICE BROOK said that the modern rules about absolute privilege extended the privilege to statements made in the course of judicial or quasi-judicial proceedings. The courts should be very slow to extend its scope: see *Royal Aquarium and Summer and Winter Garden Society Ltd v Parkinson* ([1892] 1 QB 431, 451).

In *Watson v McEwan* ([1905] AC 480) the House of Lords extended the scope of the privilege to statements by a witness to the client and solicitor in preparing a case for trial.

But in *Lincoln v Daniels* ([1962] 1 QB 237) the Court of Appeal ruled that communications sent to the Bar Council alleging professional misconduct by a barrister did not attract absolute privilege since they were not a step in an inquiry before an Inn of Court.

Mr Justice French did not refer to *Lincoln v Daniels* but, relying on an Australian decision, *Cabassi v Vila* ((1940) 64 Com LR 130, 140), approved by the Court of Appeal in *Marrinan v Vibart* ([1963] 1 QB 528, 536), said that it could not be doubted that the privilege from suit of those engaged in the preparation for, or conduct of litigation of whatever nature was far reaching.

But that did not resolve the issue in the present case since, as Lord Justice Devlin pointed out in *Lincoln* (at p259), it was the form and not the substance with which the court was traditionally concerned in such cases.

The mere fact that a contribution notice was served did not inevitably mean that relevant proceedings would ever start in a court of justice any more than the writing of a letter before action inevitably had that effect.

The scope of the absolute privilege granted to statements made in connection with judicial proceedings was not to be extended to the statement complained of in the defendants' solicitor's letter. It was not the type of communication that had immediate links with possible proceedings and was not, as Mr Panford suggested, part and parcel of the legal proceedings which were contemplated.

By way of a footnote it should be added that it would have been very much more satisfactory if the question whether absolute privilege applied had been tried as a preliminary issue, as in *Isaac (M) and Sons Ltd v Cook* ([1925] 2 KB 391).

There appeared to be a creeping tendency to resort to the strike-out sanction at a fairly advanced stage of litigation. It should be reserved for very clear cases and not used in cases where the contentions of a party were clearly arguable.

Lord Justice Nourse and Sir Brian Neill agreed.

Solicitors: Mundays, Esher; Hempsons.

Costs may be limited to estimate

In re Sasea Finance Ltd (in liquidation)

Where lawyers provided the court with a wholly unrealistic time estimate of a case's duration, a possible sanction in the armoury of the court was to limit the recovery of costs to the estimated duration of the case.

Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor, so stated on December 17 in the Chancery Division when awarding costs at the conclusion of a hearing which had been estimated at one and a half days but which had lasted for five.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said that the case had lasted five days, not because of time wasting, the raising of any unnecessary issues or the appearance of any unexpected events but because it had always been a five-day case and the time estimate given of one and a half days was ludicrous.

It was obvious that the orderly listing of cases could not be maintained when time estimates were so unrealistic. He was therefore minded to order costs limited to a two-day hearing.

He recognised, however, that such a costs order had not hitherto been imposed and that it might be unduly hard to do so when there had been no previous warning of the danger.

Accordingly, he wished this warning to be given to the professionals responsible for preparing time estimates that if the estimates were wildly wrong and not capable of explanation such limited order for costs might be made in the future.

Anxious scrutiny of actions against prosecution service

Thacker v Crown Prosecution Service

Before actions for malicious prosecution against prosecutors or employees of the Crown Prosecution Service were supported by legal aid or allowed to be pursued through the courts, anxious scrutiny should be made of them to ensure that the immunity against action for negligence acknowledged in *El Gunouli-Daf v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis* ([1995] QB 335) was not circumvented by the pleading device of converting what in reality were no more than allegations of negligence into claims for damages for malicious prosecution.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Kennedy, Lord Justice Judge and Lord Justice Chadwick) so stated on December 16 in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by Brian Thacker from the dismissal by Judge Mellor at Norwich Crown Court on November 19, 1996 of his appeal for damages for malicious prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE CHADWICK, agreeing with Lord Justice Kennedy and Lord Justice Judge, said that the fact that someone in the CPS might have been negligent or incompetent in the course of reaching a decision to commence or to continue the prosecution could not in itself justify an inference of malice. If that was all the evidence there was, the question of malice could not be left to the jury. It was because, in many such cases, that would be all the evidence there was, that an attempt to dress up a claim, in respect of negligence or incompetence in the use of malicious prosecution must fail.

Balancing costs and needs

F v Harrow London Borough Council and Another

In deciding whether to name a school preferred by a parent in a statement of special educational needs, a local education authority could have regard to its own resources but in making that decision the authority should also carry out an exercise balancing the disadvantages to its resources with the advantages of the school of parental choice to the child concerned.

Mr Justice Moses so held in the Queen's Bench Division December 9 when dismissing an appeal by F, acting by her mother as next friend, against the decision of the Special Educational Needs Tribunal affirming the decision of Harrow London Borough Council declining to name the school her mother preferred in her statement.

HIS LORDSHIP said that on a proper construction of paragraph 3(3) of Schedule 27 to the Education Act 1996 the authority had been correct in considering an efficient use of its own resources as opposed to the resources of the neighbouring authority in whose area the school of parental choice was situated.

However, when making a decision upon which school to name in the statement an authority should also carry out an exercise balancing the disadvantages to its resources with the advantages to the school of parental choice to the child concerned: *Crane v Lancashire County Council* (*The Times* May 16, 1997).

Tort evidence from same profession

Sansom and Another v Metcalfe Hambleton and Co

A court should not find a chartered surveyor professionally negligent upon the evidence of a structural engineer unless the case was so obvious that there was no room for two views.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Hutchison and Sir John Vinelott) so held on December 17 in allowing an appeal by the defendant, Metcalfe Hambleton and Co, chartered surveyors, from Judge Overend who, at Exeter County Court, had given judgment for the plaintiffs, Miss Denise Sansom and Mr John Monaghan. The court set aside the judgment and dismissed the action.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that a court should be slow to find a professionally qualified person guilty of a breach of his duty of skill and care without evidence from those within the same profession as to the standard expected on the facts of the case and the failure of the professionally qualified person to measure up to that standard.

While it was not an absolute rule, unless it was an obvious case, in the absence of the relevant expert evidence, the claim would not be proved. As the instant case was not an open and shut case the evidence of the structural engineer was not expert evidence admissible in accordance with section 3 of the Civil Evidence Act 1972 on the issue of the chartered surveyor's negligence.

Was it reasonable to prosecute?

Regina v Elmbridge Borough Council, Ex parte Activeoffice Ltd

To determine whether a local planning authority had acted lawfully in taking criminal proceedings against the owner of a listed building who had failed to comply with an enforcement notice requiring reinstatement of original features of the building, the appropriate test was whether the action of the council in bringing the prosecution was unreasonable.

The fact that the council wanted the whole building restored and not merely the objects specified in the notice reinstated did not invalidate its decision to prosecute.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Schiemann and Mr Justice Mitchell) so held on November 27, dismissing an application by Activeoffice Ltd for judicial review of decisions by Elmbridge Borough Council (i) to serve an enforcement notice in respect of a grade II listed building, Sandown House, 1 High Street, Esher; (ii) to prosecute the applicant for failure to comply with that notice and (iii) not to discontinue those proceedings.

LORD JUSTICE SCHIEMANN said the applicant was prosecuted under section 43(1) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as the person in breach of the enforcement notice who happened to be the owner at the time the notice expired. There was no suggestion that the applicant had damaged the building.

If the council had any other motive than reinstatement of the specified objects, could the prosecution be successfully challenged? The appropriate test was whether or not the prosecution could be challenged on the normal grounds of reasonableness in the Divisional Court.

Court will not enforce illegal act abroad

Ispahani v Bank Melli Iran

Before Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Robert Walker and Mr Justice Harman

[Judgment December 18]

The Bretton Woods Agreements Order in Council (SR & O 1946 No 36) applied only to exchange contracts and did not affect the legality of banking arrangements allegedly entered into in contravention of Bangladesh exchange controls.

The common law only made such arrangements legally unenforceable when they necessarily involved the commission of prohibited acts within the territory of a friendly foreign country.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff, Mirza Salman Ispahani, from an order of Mr Justice Lindsay on February 4, 1997 giving leave for further reamendment of the defence of the defendant, Bank Melli Iran.

Article VIII, section 2(b) of the Schedule to the 1946 Order in Council provides: "Exchange contracts which involve the currency of any member [of the International Monetary Fund] and which are contrary to the exchange control regulations of any member maintained or imposed consistently with this agreement shall be unenforceable in the territories of any member."

Mr Ali Malek, QC and Mr David Quest for the plaintiff; Mr John Brisby, QC and Mr Richard Hill for the bank.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT WALKER said the plaintiff was resident in Bangladesh and was a customer of the bank at its Kensington branch. It was claimed that he had signed a mandate giving authority to his cousin, a senior bank employee, to operate his accounts.

The plaintiff said the bank made unauthorised debits totalling £300,000. The bank claimed the payments were made with the plaintiff's actual or ostensible authority.

The amendments to the bank's defence pleaded that the arrangements between the plaintiff and his cousin were designed to enable him to transfer funds out of Bangladesh in contravention of exchange controls.

The amended defence pleaded that to allow recovery was contrary to public policy, in that it would require the court to enforce an obligation under a contract which was illegal in Bangladesh. It was also said that the cousin's actions were part of a conspiracy and could not be imputed to the bank.

Two associated principles were involved:

One was that where a contract was to be performed in a country where its performance was unlawful by the law of that country it would not be enforced by the English court: *Ralli Brothers v Compania Naviera* ([1920] 2 KB 287).

The other was that an English contract would be held invalid on account of illegality if the real object and intention of the parties necessitated their performing an act in a foreign country which was illegal by the law of that country: *Foster v Driscoll* ([1929] 1 KB 470).

It seemed those principles were part of the English law of contract.

Mr Malek put the 1946 Order in the forefront of his argument claiming that its provisions displaced the common law rules as to public policy applicable to contracts which were governed by English law but had a foreign element.

His Lordship reviewed the authorities and concluded that the 1946 Order displaced the common law only in the area of exchange contracts, but not in relation to exchange controls which were not concerned with exchange contracts.

Having reviewed the authorities, his Lordship decide that the intended commission of prohibited acts within the territory of a friendly foreign country, whose laws prohibited those acts, was an essential and necessary ingredient of the principle in *Foster Driscoll*.

Mr Brisby's short-cut or fall-back position was that even if the principle was limited in that way, the amendment nevertheless disclosed, with sufficient particularity, a reasonable defence.

The proposed amendment to the defence did allege a plan to transfer funds out of Bagladesh. The allegations appeare to lack particularity but the amendment did refer to affidavits and other documents and were not so lacking in particularity as to led to the amendment being rejected on that ground.

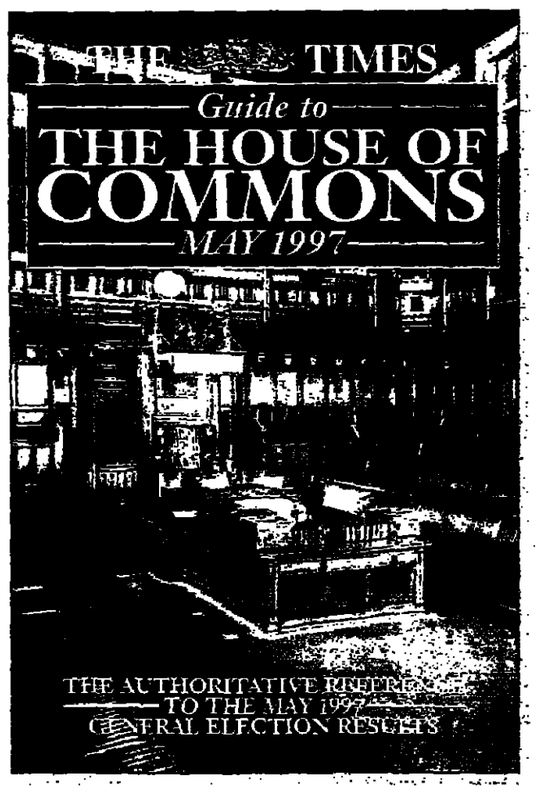
So Mr Brisby's short-cut got him home. The appeal would be dismissed.

Lord Justice Hirst and Mr Justice Harman agreed.

Solicitors: Wedlake Bell; Stephenson Harwood.

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Extent of lien granted to insurance broker

Eide UK Ltd and Another v Lowndes Lambert Group Ltd and Another

Before Lord Justice Phillips, Lord Justice Waller and Lord Justice Chadwick

[Judgment December 16]

A broker who had a lien over a policy of marine insurance was normally entitled when he collected under the policy to apply the proceeds collected in discharge of the debt that was protected by the lien.

However, a broker was not permitted to assert a lien against one co-assured in respect of the liability of another co-assured.

The Court of Appeal so stated in a reserved judgment when dismissing an appeal by Lowndes Lambert Group Ltd and Lowndes Lambert Marine Ltd against an order of Mr Justice Toulson on July 24, 1997.

The plaintiffs were owners of a vessel mortgaged to the second plaintiffs Den Norske Bank AS, incorporated in Norway. The vessel was chartered to Colne Standby Ltd which had procured hull and machinery insurance policies with the defendant brokers.

Under the terms of the charterparty Colne instructed the brokers to add the vessel to the policies. The owners assigned their interests in the policies to the bank. Colne, the owners and the bank were co-assured under the policies each with an insurable interest.

The vessel was returned damaged to the owners. Colne had incurred disbursements in respect of part repairs. The owners made further repairs with a loan from the bank.

Claims under the policies were made by Colne and by the bank as assignees of the owners and as an assured under the contract. The brokers collected from underwriters.

The brokers paid the entirety of the claims proceeds into a mixed bank account. Colne owed an outstanding amount on an insurance account to the brokers.

The issue came before the judge under Order 14A of the Rules of the Supreme Court to decide whether section 53(2) of the Marine Insurance Act 1906 gave brokers a right to retain the claims proceeds in satisfaction of Colne's liabilities under their insurance account.

Section 53 of the 1906 Act provided: "(2) Unless otherwise agreed, the broker has, against the assured, a lien upon the policy for the amount of the premium and his charges in respect of effecting the policy; and, where he has dealt with the person who employs him as a principal, he has also a lien on the policy in respect of any balance on any insurance account which may be due to him from such person, unless when the debt was incurred he had reason to believe that such person was only an agent."

Mr Jonathan Gaisman, QC and Miss Siobhan Healy for the appellants; Mr Jonathan Gilman, QC and Ms Philippa Hoskins for the respondents.

LORD JUSTICE PHILLIPS said that the appeal raised important questions as to the nature and extent of the lien granted to an insurance broker by section 53(2) of the 1906 Act.

The judge had held that the lien granted by section 53(2) was a lien on the policy itself and no more. Any right enjoyed by a broker to use claims proceeds collected under the policy to discharge the liability of an assured, or an agent acting for an assured, arose by virtue of general principles of set-off and not under the statue.

The judge had also held that section 53(2) did not, in any event, permit a broker to assert a lien against one co-assured in respect of the liability of another co-assured.

The "lien upon the policy"

It did not seem to his Lordship that the phrase could properly be treated as shorthand to embrace both a physical possessory lien on a policy and a right to annex or set-off the proceeds collected under the policy in discharge of a debt owed to the holder of the policy.

Efficacy of the possessory lien over the policy

A possessory lien over the policy plainly had little value if the assured was able to recover directly from the underwriter without production of the policy.

Swan v Maritime Insurance Co ([1907] 1 KB 116) coupled with the subsequent abolition of the requirement that the policy be stamped, had the effect of reducing the value of the possessory lien on the policy, although production of the policy was sometimes a contractual condition precedent to underwriter's liability. The nature of the interest the broker would assert where an assured attempted to defeat a broker's lien by suing without production of the policy had never been clarified by the courts.

His Lordship suspected that Mr Justice Diplock's observation in *Amalgamated General Finance Co v Golding* ([1964] 2 Lloyd's Rep 162, 170) that a broker could put difficulties in the way of a claimant who tried to circumvent a broker's lien by recovering without production of the policy remained true.

Broker's right in relation to claims proceeds

His Lordship referred to *Arnould Law of Marine Insurance and Average* (16th edition (1981) paragraph 300) and various authorities.

The importance of the lien on the policy was that it enabled the broker to maintain a set-off in respect of a receipt of claim proceeds notwithstanding that he had acquired knowledge of the existence of a previously undisclosed assured prior to the receipt, provided that he had no such knowledge when the lien on the policy arose.

If the broker retained possession of the policy, discovery of the existence of a previously undisclosed principal would not defeat the accrued security of the lien on the policy, or the commensurate right to set-off where a collection was made under the policy.

If, however, the broker parted with possession of the policy and then discovered the existence of the undisclosed principal, he would have no continuing security, even if he recovered possession of the policy.

Arnould's view that a lien on the policy carried with it a right to retain the claims proceeds collected under the policy was supported by other nineteenth-century textbooks of distinction.

For those reasons his Lordship considered that the judge erred in failing to recognise that a broker who had a lien over a policy of marine insurance was normally entitled when he collected under the policy, to apply the proceeds collected in discharge of the debt that was protected by the lien.

The precise basis of that right did not appear clearly from the authorities, but one could well understand that it should have become established as a matter of mercantile usage for it was a natural adjunct of the lien on the policy.

It was a normal part of the duty of a broker who remained in possession of the policy to collect the insurance proceeds and that duty would have been anomalous indeed if the act of collecting under the policy had destroyed the security afforded by the lien.

Did the general lien conferred by section 53(2) apply in the case of composite insurance?

Where one of a number of persons individually interested in the subject matter of a marine adventure took out insurance for the benefit of all, so that each had a right to sue in respect of his own interest, the insurance was known as composite insurance.

None of the authorities dealt directly with the nature of the lien enjoyed by a broker where one of a number of persons interested in a marine adventure insured both on his own behalf and on behalf of the other persons interested. That was the position in the present case.

His Lordship did not find it satisfactory to have to resolve the issue without evidence of market practice.

The absence of any decided case suggested that both before and after 1906 it had been taken for granted either that a general lien did arise in a case of composite insurance where the "employer" who placed the insurance did so both on his own behalf and on behalf of co-assureds, or that it did not.

The court, however, had to decide the point without evidence of usage, concluding:

1 Section 53(2) did not apply to composite insurance. "Where he has dealt with the person who employs him as a principal" was not appropriate language to describe dealings between a broker and an employer who placed insurance both on his own behalf and on behalf of other interests.

The latter part of the subsection suggested that the draftsman was indeed addressing only the simple position of one employer and one assured.

2 The general principle of the law of agency that no one could create a lien beyond his own interest was recognised in *Mapsons Y Hermano v Mildred* ((1883) 8 AC 874) which on analysis was a case of composite insurance where no general lien could be asserted by the defendants.

3 A case such as *Mapsons* differed from the present where a policy covered not merely different interests in the same property, but a fleet of vessels where different interests could exist in each vessel. Nor was it appropriate to apply the Factors Act 1889 even by analogy.

His Lordship was in no doubt that the suggestion that an assured who placed cover expressly both on his own behalf and on behalf of other interests, thereby subjected his co-assureds to the burden of a general lien in respect of his indebtedness to the brokers under a running insurance account was contrary to principle and unsupported by any authority.

For those reasons section 53(2) did not confer a general lien over the policies in favour of the brokers in the present case, and they derived no right to retain the proceeds collected on behalf of the bank under those policies in diminution of the debts owed to them in respect of other insurance business placed by Colne Standby.

His Lordship concluded with the following observation. Where as was usual a broker collected under the policy which he procured for the assured, the broker would normally have a right to set-off the moneys received for a particular assured against any indebtedness of that assured.

To that extent, if either market practice or contractual agreement placed the broker in a position to insist on collecting under a policy, the broker would enjoy a degree of security.

The present case demonstrated, however, that in a case of composite insurance such security fell short of that which would be provided by a general lien over policy and proceeds.

Lord Justice Waller and Lord Justice Chadwick agreed.

Solicitors: Hill Taylor Dickinson; Watson Farley Williams.

Guidance in use of discretion

Soinco SACI and Another v Novokuznetsk Aluminium Plant and Others

Before Lord Justice Phillips, Lord Justice Waller and Lord Justice Chadwick

[Judgment December 16]

When deciding whether to extend time to appeal where leave had been granted to enforce an award as a judgment and judgment had been entered in respect of an arbitration award, the principles applicable to obtaining leave to appeal out of time provided an appropriate guide to the court in exercising its discretion.

The Court of Appeal so stated in a reserved judgment, inter alia, dismissing an appeal by Novokuznetsk Aluminium Plant, the first defendant, from the refusal by Mr Justice Colman to extend time to permit them to challenge the enforcement in England of a Swiss arbitration award made on May 31, 1996. On September 30, 1996 Mr Justice Rix gave leave to enforce the award as a judgment. On January 6 judgment was entered by Soinco SACI and Eural KFt.

Mr Nigel Meeson and Miss Miranda Whiteley for Novokuznetsk; Mr Stanley Burton, QC and Mr Richard Perkoff for Soinco.

LORD JUSTICE WALLER said that the court had been addressed on the appropriate principles to be applied when faced with an application to extend time to set aside an order giving leave to enforce an award as a judgment.

Mr Meeson sought to rely on *Mortgage Corporation v Sandoes (The Times* December 27, 1996; [1997] PNLR 263). The court, however, drew attention to *Finnegan v Parkside Health Authority (The Times* December 16, 1997) which resolved the approach to be taken. His Lordship was, however, doubtful as to whether save in the most general way, those decisions really assisted.

It was obvious that where leave had been given to enforce an award as a judgment and judgment had been entered in relation to an arbitration award, the court was in entirely different territory from applications for extensions of time for compliance with interlocutory orders or rules applying during the currency of a case.

Arbitration was intended as a process for the resolution of disputes similar to the trial process save that it could lack the formality of that process, was confidential and was in most instances conducted more speedily.

Once an award had been obtained, the court, unless good reason was shown for not doing so, would be prepared to turn that award into a judgment, so as to aid enforcement.

In that context the failure to apply within the strict time limits to set aside the judgment would not be viewed as a mere technicality to be brushed aside even if the application had some chance of success were extension of time to be granted. All would depend on the particular circumstances.

As with any exercise of a discretion to extend time, it was obviously relevant to examine the merits. The principles applicable to obtaining leave to appeal out of time seemed to provide an appropriate guide: see *C. M. Van Stillevoldt BV v E. L. Carriers Inc* ([1983] 1 WLR 207) and *Norwich and Peterborough Society v Steed* ([1991] 1 WLR 449).

The matters to be taken into account as summarised in the *Norwich* case could be adapted to the context thus: (i) The extent of delay; (ii) the excuse for the delay; (iii) the strength of the applicant's case for setting the order aside if an extension were granted; and (iv) the degree of prejudice to the respondent if the application was granted.

It was not quite right in all cases to say that the fact that the question as to whether the award should be enforced as a judgment would be re-opened should not count as prejudice: see *Greig Middleton and Co v Denderowicz (No 3) (The Times* July 4, 1997; [1997] 4 All ER 181, 192). That might well be so where the delay was short but might well not be so if time had gone by and a respondent had conducted his affairs on the basis that the judgment was not going to be challenged.

In the present case, an examination of the merits led to the conclusion that leave should be refused whatever excuse and however short the delay.

Lord Justice Phillips and Lord Justice Chadwick agreed.

Solicitors: Ince & Co; Rakisons.

Evidence relevant to influencing length of director's suspension

Secretary of State for Trade and Industry v Griffiths and Others

Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Waller and Lord Justice Robert Walker

[Judgment December 16]

Guidance as to what was relevant and admissible evidence for the purpose of determining the length of a disqualification period, and for the purposes of an application under section 17 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 which permitted the court to grant a disqualified director leave to "promote or form a company" or "to be a liquidator, administrator or director of, or otherwise to take part in the management of a company or to be a receiver or manager of a company's property" was given by the Court of Appeal.

The court dismissed a cross-appeal by way of respondent's notice by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry in respect of disqualification orders under section 6 of the 1986 Act made by Mr Justice Chadwick on March 25, 1997 against Sidney Griffiths, Roy Conway and John Wassell, all former directors of Westmid Packaging Services Ltd. Mr Conway and Mr Wassell, who had been disqualified for the minimum period of two years but were granted leave under section 17 to continue to run the company, did not pursue their appeals.

Mr Nigel Davis, QC and Miss Martha Maher for the secretary of state; Mr Michael Briggs and Mr Abbas Mithani, solicitor, for the appellants.

LORD WOOLF, giving the judgment of the court, said that it was of the greatest importance that any individual who undertook the statutory and fiduciary obligations of being a company director realised that those were inescapable personal responsibilities.

The appellants might have been dazzled, manipulated and deceived by Mr Griffiths, but they were in breach of their own duties in allowing that to happen.

Where the court knew or expected that an application under section 17 would be made immediately or soon after the making of a disqualification order, and the court was minded to grant leave, that was no reason for deciding to impose the minimum period of disqualification.

An order under section 17 gave leave only in respect of one or more specified companies and might be subject to stringent conditions. The power to grant leave under section 17 was irrelevant to determining the proper period of disqualification.

In *In re Lo-Line Electric Motors Ltd* ([1988] Ch 477), Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, said that the primary purpose of a section 300 of the Companies Act 1985 was to protect the public against the future conduct of companies by persons whose past records as directors of insolvent companies showed them to be a danger to creditors and others.That statement had often been approved by the Court of Appeal. But there was often a considerable time lag between the conduct complained of, its discovery and the disqualification proceedings coming to court.

One result of delay when it occurred was that there were occasions when disqualification had to be ordered even though, by reason of the director's recognition of his previous failings, and the way he had conducted himself since the conduct complained of, he was in fact no longer a danger to the public.

In such cases it was no longer necessary for the director to be kept "off the road" for the protection of the public, but other factors came into play in the wider interests of protecting the public, namely, a deterrent element in relation to the director himself and as far as other directors were concerned.

Despite the fact that the courts had said disqualification was not a punishment, in truth the exercise that was being engaged in was little different from a penalty sentencing exercise. The period of disqualification had to reflect the gravity of the offence and contain deterrent elements. Concentration on the facts of the offence was necessary when considering whether a director was unfit, but many other factors also came into play when in relation to the period of disqualification.

In the criminal sentencing context there was no room for plea bargaining if by that it was meant some form of agreement as to the sentence if a plea was entered.

But there could be negotiation as to the acceptability of an admission on a certain basis of fact, and that would seem to be as sensible in the context of the 1986 Act as in the criminal context. That was clear in *In re Carecraft Construction Ltd* ([1994] 1 WLR 172).

Furthermore, in the criminal context very little discount was given if there was an admission of what was indisputable but an admission of what might otherwise have taken a great deal of time and expense to prove surely merited some recognition, provided of course that the starting point correctly reflected the gravity of the conduct.

It would not send out a wrong message to fix the period of disqualification by starting with an assessment of the correct period to fit the gravity of the conduct, and then allowing for the mitigating factors, in much the same way as a sentencing court would do.

It would not, however, be right to allow the question whether a discretion was likely to be exercised under section 17 to come into the calculation at all. That question should be considered separately after a period of disqualification had been fixed.

Their Lordships wished to discourage the belief that there was a complicated, arcane and inflexible code of evidential rules which applied to the three logically and procedurally distinct issues of: (i) whether a director was unfit within the meaning of the Act; (ii) if so, how long his period of disqualification should be; and (iii) at what stage, if any, in respect of which companies and on what conditions leave under section 17 should be granted.

In most cases the essential thing would be for the court, with the assistance of the parties, to use common sense and to adopt a practical and flexible approach to case management so as to confine the evidence to that which was probative. While the director's general reputation might be relevant, detailed or repetitive evidence ought not to be allowed.

The principles applicable to the court's jurisdiction under the Act were now reasonably clear. The application of those principles to the facts of the particular case was a matter for the trial judge. The citation of cases as to the period of disqualification would, in the great majority of cases, be unnecessary and inappropriate.

The court expressed concern at the delay in the hearing of cases. Sometimes delay was unavoidable because of pending criminal proceedings. Sometimes respondents obtained over-indulgent extensions of time for putting in their evidence.

All such delays were deplorable, especially because there was no power to suspend a director on an interim basis, even in proceedings alleging serious misconduct. Over-elaboration in the preparation and hearing of cases and a technical approach as to what evidence was and was not admissible was contributing to delay.

What was required and what the court should confine the parties to, was sufficient evidence to enable the court to adopt a broad brush approach. That should be regarded especially in relation to the period of disqualification, as a jurisdiction which the court should exercise in a summary manner.

Solicitors: Osborne Clarke, Bristol; Lee Crowder, Birmingham.

Court cannot make interim order

Wicks v Wicks

Before Lord Justice Peter Gibson, Lord Justice Ward and Sir John Vinelott

[Judgment December 18]

Pending determination of ancillary relief proceedings, the court had no power to order the use of part of the matrimonial assets to purchase property to provide accommodation for one of the parties and children of the family.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in allowing an appeal by the husband, Barry Edward Wicks, from an order made by Judge Pearlman in the Principal Registry of the Family Division on the application of the wife, Elizabeth Anne Wicks.

Mr Camden Pratt, QC and Mr Christopher Pocock, neither of whom appeared below, for the husband; Mr Christopher Wood for the wife.

LORD JUSTICE WARD said that the parties married in 1985. They had two children aged 12 and six. The husband purchased a house at Abbotswood Drive, Weybridge and transferred it to the wife and declared her to be entitled to the whole legal and beneficial interest therein. That notwithstanding, he claimed that the property was bought as a business venture with the object of making a profit.

The marriage broke down in 1995. The wife and the children moved into rented accommodation. She presented a petition for divorce and sought ancillary relief. She was receiving no financial support from the husband.

By an application dated July 16, 1997 she sought orders that the property at Abbotswood Drive be sold, and that part of the proceeds of sale be applied to purchase property for occupation by herself and the children pending the final resolution of her ancillary relief claim.

The judge made an order in those terms upon the wife undertaking, pending the final hearing of the ancillary relief application, not to mortgage, charge or otherwise dispose of her interest in the new property. The husband appealed.

If the power claimed by the judge on the authority of *Barry v Barry* ([1992] Fam 140), *Green v Green* ([1993] 1 FLR 326) and *F v F* ([1995] 2 FLR 45) did exist, then she might have been entitled to exercise a discretion, but the correctness of each of those decisions was under challenge.

After reviewing those authorities, his Lordship concluded that the judge was wrong to assume jurisdiction for the exercise of her discretion. In those authorities, three experienced judges of the Family Division each saw the need on the facts of the case before him to have some power to grant some interim relief.

In each case, as in the present, the result arrived at by the judge met the demands of justice and fairness, to achieve which the judge had to resort to expediency to found his jurisdiction. Beguiled by the authorities the judge fell into error, and the appeal should be allowed.

Sir John Vinelott and Lord Justice Peter Gibson delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Withers; Guillaumes, Weybridge.

Restrictions on special hours certificates

Regina v Stafford Crown Court, Ex parte Shipley

Before Lord Justice Simon Brown, Lord Justice Henry and Lord Justice Auld

[Judgment December 12]

Licensing justices were entitled to restrict the time of commencement as well as the end time for the operation of a special hours certificate which permitted the sale of liquor ancillary to the provision of music, dancing and food for a period outside the normal licensing hours.

During the operation times of a special hours certificate the sale of alcohol was not permitted unless it was ancillary to the provision of music, dancing and food, even if the hours overlapped with the general licensing hours.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing an appeal by Steven John Shipley from a refusal by Mr Justice Keene on December 16, 1996 of an application for judicial review of a decision of Stafford Crown Court on May 31, 1996 upholding a decision dated December 4, 1995 of Cannock Licensing Justices to impose a start time of 7pm on a special hours certificate granted to the appellant. The respondent to the appeal was the Chief Constable of Staffordshire.

Mr John Saunders, QC and Mr Jonathan Gosling for Mr Shipley; Mr James Quirke for the chief constable.

LORD JUSTICE HENRY said that the appeal raised fundamental questions of liquor licensing law in relation to the late-night sale or supply of liquor under a special hours certificate granted by licensing justices under section 77 of the Licensing Act 1964.

If a music and dancing licence was in force in the premises then the special hours certificate might permit the sale of liquor ancillary to the music and dancing and substantial refreshments that were provided to a later hour than was permitted by the regimes under which normal licensing hours were extended.

The chief constable contended that on days when the special hours certificate permitted the sale of liquor, the permitted hours for such sale, and the conditions for them, were set out in the certificate.

The appellants contended that an special hours certificate was simply a "bolt-on extra" to the permitted hours of his existing on-licence which only became operative after normal closing time so that until 11pm the premises could operate as a normal public house selling liquor on its own, ancillary to nothing, under the general licensing hours permitted by section 60 of the Act.

The appellant held a full justices on-licence for a public house known as Stones in the Market Place in Cannock, Staffordshire. It was a one-room pub, with a very small dance floor, selling pub food.

From December 1993 till April 1995 the premises had a special hours certificate for Wednesday to Saturday whereby the permitted hours lasted until midnight. By an oversight the entertainment licence was not renewed so that the special hours certificate was revoked automatically.

Following the grant of a new entertainment licence in October 1995 permitting the premises to be used for public dancing, music and other public entertainment between 11am and midnight, application was made for a new special hours certificate on the same terms as before.

There were no police objections, but at the request of the police the licence was limited to a start time of 7pm and an end time of midnight. That was unacceptable to the appellant.

The actual legal issues involved were: first, whether the justices had power to impose an opening time of 7pm on days when the special hours certificate applied and second, whether on days when the special hours certificate applied, the sale of liquor during the hours permitted by the special hours certificate had to be ancillary to the provision of music, dancing and food or needed only be so ancillary after the expiry of the general licensing hours.

His Lordship said that sections 78A and 81A of the 1964 Act which were inserted into the 1964 Act by section 3 of the Licensing (Amendment) Act 1980 related to the imposition of unqualified limitations as to particular times of day to which the permitted hours of an special hours certificate might be subject. Prima facie those applied to both start times and end times and certificates granted under the regime might be either with or without limitations.

If a special hours certificate were granted without such limitation, it was clear that the permitted hours of the special hours certificate ran from the start of the general licensing hours until the end of those hours as fixed by statute.

Where there were limitations, the justices' powers to control the operation of special certificates were significantly increased by sections 78A and 81A and there was no reason to restrict them to limiting end times only. There was nothing in the language that required such restriction and on the contrary everything pointed against it. Special hours certificates continued to have their own permitted hours, necessarily involving start and end times.

Moreover, it was clear on the construction of the provisions that at all times when the special hours certificate was in operation the licensee could not rely on a combination of his on-licence and section 60 of the Act to make any non-ancillary sale of liquor compliant with the law.

Lord Justice Auld agreed and Lord Justice Simon Brown delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Jeffrey Green Russell; Mr C. R. Alcock, Stafford.

Prison inevitable for jail drugs

Regina v Eaton

The supply of controlled drugs to a serving prisoner was an extremely serious matter which would inevitably attract a substantial term of imprisonment.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division (Lord Justice Buxton and Mr Justice Scott Baker) so held on December 1 in allowing an appeal by Michael James Eaton against a sentence of two years imprisonment imposed by Judge Geddes at Worcester Crown Court in July 1997 on his plea of guilty to supplying a class B drug, cannabis resin.

LORD JUSTICE BUXTON, giving the judgment of the court, said that supplying controlled drugs to a serving prisoner not only involved a breach of prison rules but meant that the prison authorities had to make very restrictive arrangements for visitors to prison inmates.

It was not possible to formulate clear guidelines, much less a tariff, for that type of offence which would vary greatly depending on whether the drugs were class A or B and the amounts involved, but even the supply of cannabis was serious a would lead to a prison sentence.

The appellant had a deplorable record and no significant personal mitigation but their Lordships took the view that two years was too long and that it was therefore right to reduce it to 15 months.

Pay difference objectively justified

Barry v Midland Bank plc

Before Lord Justice Peter Gibson, Lord Justice Ward and Sir John Vinelott

[Judgment December 18]

There was no sex discrimination in calculating severance pay based on part-time earnings even where more female than male employees worked part time.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing an appeal by the employee, Mrs Jacqueline Barry, from the Employment Appeal Tribunal (Mr Justice Mummery, Mr R. N. Straker and Mr A. D. Tuffin) ([1997] ICR 192) which had upheld the dismissal by a South London industrial tribunal June 15, 1995 of her complaint that her employer, Midland Bank plc, had contravened the equality clause in her contract of employment when calculating redundancy payments.

Miss Cherie Booth, QC and Mr Clive Lewis for Mrs Barry; Mr Patrick Elias, QC and Miss Sue Ashtiany, solicitor, for the bank.

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIBSON, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appeal raised difficult questions concerning the application of the Equal Pay Act 1970 and article 119 of the Treaty of Rome (Cmnd 5179-II) to the contractual entitlement of a female employee to a severance payment on her redundancy. There was a defence to a claim based on article 119 where the employer could establish that a difference in pay was objectively justified.

Mrs Barry was employed from July 1979 to April 1993 working 35 hours weekly as a full-time clerk from June 1987 in Grade S4 until February 1990 when she went on maternity leave.

She returned to work in October 1990 but, at her request, as a part-time or key-time worker, choosing to work alternate weeks and so worked the equivalent of 17½ hours a week.

In 1992 the bank invited volunteers for redundancy in the department in which she worked. She received details of the severance payment she would receive under a scheme in a collective agreement between the bank and her trade union.

Under the scheme the amount payable depended mainly on the number of completed years of service, whether in full-time or part-time employment with the bank, and on the pay the employee was earning at the date of the termination of employment.

Having completed 13 years service Mrs Barry was entitled to 42 weeks pay. She applied and was accepted for voluntary redundancy and received £5,806.08 in accordance with the scheme.

The bank employed more women than men. In December 1992, 28,500 of its total staff of 48,420 were women. Of the 58 part-time staff, 55 were women. In 1992 bank employees changed from part-time to full-time work and even more from full-time to part-time, with women being in the preponderance in both movements.

Mrs Barry complained to an industrial tribunal, her particular grievance being that the method of calculation of her severance pay took insufficient account of the fact that 11 of her 13 years were full time.

She said that as a greater proportion of women than men worked part time, a greater proportion of women than men had their severance payment calculated in a way that failed to reflect their period of full-time service.

She named as comparators two male full-time S4 clerks whose job had been rated as equivalent to hers and who had been employed in the same department and under the same terms and conditions of employment. She claimed, inter alia, that the calculation of her severance pay constituted a breach of her right under article 119 to equal pay for equal work and was not objectively justified.

By way of relief she claimed £2,274.72, being the difference between what she claimed she should have received if the severance payment had fully reflected her period of full-time service and what she actually received.

She calculated that sum on the basis that she should be treated as having a full-time weekly pay at termination, but that her part-time service should be converted into full-time years, one year of part-time service being the equivalent of six months full-time service, and added to her full-time service to arrive at the sum payable.

In their Lordships' opinion there could be no doubt that the primary objective of the scheme, to cushion the effect of the unemployment, as well as the secondary objective, to compensate the employee for her loss of a job and to reward her loyalty, were legitimate and non-discriminatory aims.

As for the means used to meet the objectives, it seemed plain that the form of the scheme was both appropriate and reasonably necessary to that end.

That was demonstrated by the fact that the scheme could not be redrafted to correlate the severance payment with the hours served by the employee in the way suggested by Mrs Barry without detracting from the primary objective of the scheme.

The form which the scheme took of basing the award on the pay at termination was not a mere matter of convenience but was designed to promote the primary objective. The scheme had the merit of clarity and simplicity which was beneficial to both the bank and its employees.

The industrial tribunal recognised that administrative convenience as well as the aim of cushioning employees against unemployment and job loss were objective reasons unconnected with the difference in sex between Mr Barry and her male comparators and that section 1(3) of the 1970 Act was satisfied.

In agreement with the Employment Appeal Tribunal, their Lordships regarded that conclusion as equally applicable to article 119.

Therefore if there was indirect discrimination, which had not been proved, it was objectively justified and was due to a material factor not based on sex. It was unnecessary to make a reference to the European Court of Justice.

Solicitors: Lawford & Co, Richmond upon Thames; Cole & Cole, Oxford.

Jury must be random not average

Regina v Tarrant

Before Lord Justice Henry, Mr Justice Gage and Judge Tucker, QC

[Judgment December 18]

The first protection of the fairness of the selection procedure for juries was that it was done by the administration, who might properly summon panels from different parts of the catchment area. The selection of the actual jury from the panel or part of the panel was also a matter for the administration.

A judge had no right to discharge a properly selected jury nor to dictate the composition of that part of the panel from which the jury was selected by ballot. By so doing he would deprive an accused of a genuinely randomly selected jury to which the common law and statute entitled him.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in issuing a writ of venire de novo annulling and setting aside the conviction of James Nicholas Tarrant at Sharesbrook Crown Court (Judge Brooks and a jury) in October 1996 of conspiracy to possess a controlled class B drug, cannabis resin, with intent

Mr Jeremy Dein, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr T. W. J. Docking for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE HENRY, in the reserved judgment of the court, said that because the judge suspected that jurors might be intimidated he had ordered that the jury should be brought in from outside the catchment area.

The principal ground of appeal was that the trial was therefore a nullity because the jury was not randomly selected. Mr Dein's submissions were based on *R v. Ford* ([1989] QB 89). The court's reasoning in *Ford* was relevant to and conclusive of the case.

The nomination of the prospective jurors on to the panel and the selection of jurors from the panel to try the case had to be random. That random process was to be carried out not by or on behalf of the judge, but by the court's administration: see sections 2, 5 and 6 of the Juries Act 1974.

That statutory scheme made jury selection an administrative and not a judicial function. Fairness was achieved by random selection, rather than by weighted selection to achieve an average jury with a representative spread of gender, race, religion and so on.

In that process the judge's powers were limited. He had a residual common law discretion to discharge individual potential jurors if they were not likely to be willing or able properly to perform their duties but that discretion could not be used to interfere with the composition of the panel or of an individual jury.

The judge's powers were restricted to attempting to ensure that all twelve jurors were competent, were not disqualified by conscientious objection and would not suffer personal hardship, which might be distracting, through jury service.

Their Lordships were concerned not with the quality of the judge's decision but only as to the consequences of it, which were:

(i) that he deliberately set out to affect, and ultimately did affect, the composition of the trial jury; (ii) that such an action went beyond the residual common law discretion left to a judge and trespassed on the composition of the panel which was an administrative matter for the Lord Chancellor; and (iii) in so doing he deprived the appellant of the protection of a randomly selected jury, a protection which formed the basis of our concept of fairness in jury selection.

That was a fundamental irregularity and a writ of venire de novo would accordingly be issued.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Operations.

مكتبة الإمام

هكذا من الأصل

A chance to go the distance for Diana



Wanted: 20 people to run the marathon as fundraisers for the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund

FLORA LONDON MARATHON

The Times has secured 20 places for its readers to take part in the 1998 Flora London Marathon and help raise more than the target of £5 million for the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund.

The Times 20 will be part of Team Flora, in which all the runners will be fund-raising for the Memorial Fund, one of the two official charities for the race next year. A special panel has been set up to select readers wanting to 'Run for Diana' over the historic distance through the streets of London on Sunday, April 26.

The Times will also publish the complete results of the race — from the international heroes and heroines at the front to the determined joggers at the back.

There has already been unprecedented interest in the 1998 event. A record 100,000 people applied to enter, including 20,000 who specifically responded to an invitation to run for the Memorial Fund.

This year, it was televised in more than 100 countries and 600,000 people lined the London streets to cheer on the 29,135 competitors, who ran from Greenwich to the Mall, triumphantly finishing the course of 26 miles 385 yards.



The fund-raising for the Memorial Fund will be poignant for many of the competitors next year because they will be running on the streets where the coffin of the Princess was carried at her funeral on September 6. It will also be 10 years since she was the official starter of the 1988 event.

Applications should not come from people who have already been informed that they have been selected to take part in the 1998 race.

They should be from those people, who have already been rejected or from anyone else who feels they can be inspired by the attempt to run the epic distance. Both men and women, experienced runners and novices, will be considered.

The names of the chosen 20 will be published in *The Times* on Monday, January 19 and the newspaper will then highlight some of the runners' stories and preparation in the build-up to the event itself.

All the members of Team Flora will be supported and helped with all aspects of the marathon running and fund-raising, from training and nutrition to self-motivation, by a specially-selected support team. Every penny raised by the 250 runners will go to the Memorial Fund, as all administration costs will be covered by the Flora London Marathon.

THE TIMES DIANA TEAM COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Read the form below carefully: the judges will base their decision on what you reveal in this form. All the winners who take part in the marathon on April 26 will be asked to sign a pledge form relating to their commitment to raise funds for the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund and to remit such funds by May 31, 1998. Our entry forms for the chance to win a place in the Diana Team should reach the following address by January 9, 1998: *The Times* Diana Team, Flora London Marathon, PO Box 5071, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 7FY. Judging will take place on January 14 and the winners will be informed by telephone by January 19.

Title..... Initials .....

Surname .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Day tel .....

Eve tel .....

Age ..... Female ☐ Male ☐

Occupation .....

Which category do you wish to enter?

Men ☐ Women ☐

Do you suffer from any illness/es?

.....

Have you been in hospital for an operation? If yes, state what and when

.....

.....

Have you, a relative or friend, ever met Princess Diana? If yes, describe the occasion

.....

.....

.....

Have you, a relative or friend, any connection with any of the Diana, Princess of Wales, charities, or a special reason for wanting to be in the Diana team? Describe your connection

.....

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.....

Have you ever competed in a marathon before?

.....

How much money did you raise?

.....

For which organisation/s?

.....

Have you raised funds for any organisation/s before?

.....

Describe how much you raised and how you did it

.....

.....

.....

.....

Do you have any outstanding achievements of which you are proud? Tell us about them

.....

.....

.....

.....

What are your hobbies?

.....

.....

State, in not more than 50 words, why you deserve a place in this year's marathon

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Please send the completed entry form to: *The Times*/Diana Team, London Marathon, PO Box 5071, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 7FY.

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,300.10	**Allied Domecq**	510	-24	4.8	13.1
705.90	Edinger (HP)	390	-2½	4.8	11.9
24.60	Burn Stewart	41½	-2½	10.2	14.5
22,403.70	**Diageo**	558	-32	3.3	17.0
117.00	Glenmorangie 'A'	860	-59½	2.0	20.6
389.90	Highland Distil	290	-11	3.8	13.4
147.40	Matthew Clark	166½	18	15.5	5.2
5.64	Merrydown	51½	-1½	7.5	
4,297.60	SA Breweries	1459½	-78½	2.5	

BANKS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
16,354.60	ABN-AMRO	1175	-69½	2.7	17.0
15,108.40	**Abbey Natl**	1070	-33	3.2	17.5
4,644.40	**Alliance & Leic**	798	-17	2.6	18.7
4,741.90	Allied Irish	560½	-18½	3.2	16.5
5,644.50	Aus New Z	378½	-20½	5.4	
24,665.70	Bank America	4250	-484½		
6,732.00	**Bank Scotland**	590	-34	2.0	15.2
24,076.20	**Barclays**	1595	-115	2.6	15.1
4,329.40	Bk of Ireland	886	-36½	2.4	19.4
35,634.40	Citicorp	7362½	-581½		
6,612.50	Commerzbk	1687½	-25	2.8	
10,207.50	Dai Ichi Kan Y	328½	-150	1.2	69.6
20,768.20	Deutsche Bk	4153½	-100	1.5	
462.10	Espirito Santo	1168½	-18½	3.1	
6,340.80	Fuji Bank Y	218½	-84½	1.8	43.0
13,197.40	**HSBC**	1510	-94	3.8	12.2
28,038.90	HSBC HK	1445	-93	4.0	11.7
19,026.80	**Halifax**	758	-1	2.4	25.5
546.10	Irish Perm	635	-5	2.4	17.6
40,362.10	**Lloyds TSB**	748	-41	2.4	21.8
12,032.20	Nat Aust Bk	804½	-54½	4.7	
17,223.50	**Nat West**	995	-65	3.8	15.7
2,517.40	Northern Rock	580½	+23	1.9	22.9
6,398.40	**Ryl Bk Scot**	744	-28	3.6	14.6
6,474.40	**Stand Chart**	652	-42	3.0	11.4
16,061.10	Wells Fargo	£164½		1.9	
6,745.80	Westpac	379	-1	3.7	
5,040.00	**Woolwich**	315	-8	3.1	18.7

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
8,040.80	**Bass**	905½	-30½	3.8	16.3
18.30	Bt for the Bdr	54½		4.4	16.1
31.30	Burtonwood Brw	150½	-3	5.9	13.1
262.20	City Centre Rest	135	+1½	2.3	31.0
2,375.10	Compass Gp	723	-41½	1.7	24.9
61.40	Eldridge P A	789½		2.7	
160.00	Enterprise Inns	246½	+2	3.8	
59.10	Fuller Sm 'A'	425	-2½	3.1	13.7
1,279.30	Greenalls Gp	432½	+10	4.9	10.6
443.30	Greene King	732½	+31	2.9	15.0
28.00	Grosvenor Inns	197½		4.0	20.6
52.60	Groupe Chez Ger	281½		1.4	22.7
45.80	Hardy Hanson	239	+½	6.4	
58.50	Holt J	2125		3.5	11.9
43.10	Int Business	64	+4½	3.2	10.2
197.80	Mansfield	302½	+1½	3.0	12.5
241.60	Marston Thmpt	267	+¼	3.9	9.5
142.80	Morlands	440	-3	3.7	
79.70	Old Eng Pub	388½	-23½	1.0	22.8
3.63	Paramount	30½	-2		
486.60	PizzaExpress	735	-71	0.6	38.0
29.80	Ramsdens (H)	320	-2½	2.0	28.3
294.40	Regent Inns	330	-2½	1.2	26.6
82.30	SFI	139½	-14	0.6	29.7
4,480.50	**Scot & New**	725	-33	3.9	14.3
379.70	Vaux Group	365½	+½	5.4	11.0
644.50	Wetherspoon JD	330		0.8	38.1
4,417.40	**Whitbread**	801½	+4½	3.4	15.4
311.20	Wolvrhmptn DI	459	-5	5.1	10.4
240.80	Yates Bros	381	+7½	1.0	27.4
19.10	Young 'A'	657½	-5	3.0	27.2

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
4.62	AAF Inds	20			
89.10	Abbey	230		2.7	17.3
142.60	Allen	343½	-2½	3.3	16.7
242.00	Amec	118	-2½	3.6	
131.90	Amey	450	-6	2.6	16.7
110.50	Andrews Sykes	717½	+17½	2.0	17.6
538.60	Ashtead	178		1.3	24.6
13.40	Avonside	31	-4	6.0	6.4
47.20	Baird	33½		4.5	15.8
27.00	Barcom	50	+3		
534.10	Barratt Devs	230	-6	4.9	11.6
149.40	Beazer	159½	-3	5.2	10.3
340.30	Bellway	323½	-2	3.6	10.8
8.79	Bellwinch	19½	+½		8.6
5.25	Ben Bailey	50		4.0	7.1
751.40	Berkeley Gp	606	-17	2.0	10.6
32.90	Bett Bros	153	-5	5.5	4.6
76.80	Boot (Henry)	283½	+1½	3.6	11.1
219.30	Bovis Homes	193½	+¼	6.1	8.6
26.20	Brandon Hire	116½	-2	3.1	15.6
7.18	Britannia Grp	31½		3.6	6.0
324.00	Bryant	113½	+2½	5.6	12.2
44.60	CALA	103½	+1	4.5	8.3
3.66	Campbell & Arm	3½	-¼		
10.30	Clarke T	83½		7.9	9.8
74.20	Costain	22	-½		
75.00	Countryside	98	-2	3.3	
97.00	Crest Nicholson	97½	-1½	4.0	12.0
15.60	Cussins	87½	-5	6.0	8.7
16.30	Eve Group	186		4.0	12.1
17.80	Galliford	20		6.6	13.0
104.00	Gleeson (MJ)	1020		2.2	16.8
37.70	Havelock Euro	135	-15	4.3	8.7
442.90	Hewden-Stuart	159	-4½	2.7	21.3
5.54	Howard Hldgs	31	+½	4.8	19.0
437.30	Jarvis	377½	+7½	1.9	19.2
106.40	Keller	190	-3½	3.2	13.2
66.60	Kier	210½		2.7	11.3
149.90	Laing (J)	324½	-18	3.8	27.4
46.20	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	115	-3	7.0	
3.38	Lovell (YJ)	8½	-2		
39.90	Maunders (J)	153	-11	5.0	9.7
163.40	McAlpine (A)	134½	+9½	6.5	19.1
113.30	McCarthy & St	113½	-6½	3.3	10.5
17.60	Mcinerney	70			
55.60	Morgan Sindall	166½		3.4	11.3
218.10	Morrison Const	325		2.0	18.2
153.00	Mowlem (J)	86½	-3½	5.1	8.5
339.60	Persimmon	185½	-8½	6.5	9.4
14.60	Peterhouse	88½		5.5	20.0
23.90	Pochins	115		2.7	13.4
31.90	Prowting	117½	-1	4.5	10.8
319.60	Redrow	142½	+2	3.2	12.5
32.90	Spandex	225	-3½	1.8	12.6
55.10	Swan Hill	60½	-3½	4.0	
39.90	Tay Homes	136½		6.8	12.0
688.60	Taylor Woodrw	173½	-3½	2.7	13.3
163.90	Tilbury Dougls	194	-7	6.1	12.1
13.90	Try Group	21½	-½		10.3
29.30	Ultraplant	63½	-1	8.0	
69.60	Wainhomes	111	-2½	5.3	11.5
26.30	Ward Hldgs	50	+2½		
213.60	Westbury	336	-5½	3.6	11.7
89.90	Wiggins	13	+1½		
301.50	Wilson (C)	151½		4.1	15.4
482.80	Wilson Bowdn	519	-2	2.7	13.6
361.30	Wimpey G	99	-1	6.9	10.6

BUILDING MATERIALS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
613.60	Aggregate Inds	51	-1	4.9	22.8
1,729.46	BPB	336	-1½	3.6	15.4
37.90	Baggeridge Brk	92½		4.9	
11.20	Blockleys	45		0.4	
2,558.70	**Blue Circle**	338	-11	4.7	14.2
27.60	Breedon PLC	100	-1½	6.5	13.7
22.60	Br Dredging	129	-2½	8.0	9.8
2,627.30	CRH	688½	-26½	1.5	17.0
3.15	Cakebread Rbt	52½	+8	7.4	5.3
29.50	Cape	109½	+1	6.8	8.6
314.10	Caradon	176½	-9½	6.1	8.7
163.73	Caradon pf	101½	-3½	8.9	
7.95	Chieftain Gp	92½	-10	4.6	9.2
3.61	Dyson (JRJ)	219	-3½	3.3	13.0
16.60	Dyson 'A'	130	-2	6.1	7.0
25.80	Ecostone	56½	-2		
25.50	Epwin	198½		5.8	12.1
1.74	Gibbs & Dandy	102½		4.7	10.9
25.40	Graham Grp	168½	-½	4.3	24.3
35.20	Halstead (J)	277½		4.3	19.6
1,173.20	Hanson	357	-19	5.6	10.9
330.90	Hepworth	216½	-7½	7.1	14.8
22.82	Heywood	138½	+¼	5.8	9.2
127.70	Howard Wlm	206½	-11	8.4	8.5
254.40	Ibstock	90½	-3½	5.0	19.0
29.30	Johnston	357½	+7½	4.2	13.1
12.30	Lilleshall	84½	+13	7.2	10.9
316.10	Marley	93½	-2	6.1	9.1
147.50	Marshalls	130	-4	5.1	16.0
609.70	Meyer Intl	382½		4.0	14.3
112.00	Norcros	67½		3.5	14.8
1,201.40	Pilkington	124½	-2	4.7	15.9
234.30	Polypipe	169	-14½	2.5	12.7
44.50	Quality	22½			19.2
2,136.10	RMC Gp	849	-56	3.7	11.9
1,791.70	Redland	343½		6.1	19.1
12.10	Rubroid	81	-2½	7.5	15.1
861.60	Rugby Group	133½	+3	3.5	26.1
21.90	Russell (A)	84½	-5	4.1	12.8
360.60	SIG	254½	-12	3.6	13.0
4.84	SWP	3½			13.6
50.70	Sharpe & Fisher	225½	-½	3.3	14.7
12.70	Spring Ram	16½	-3½		
92.40	Streamline Hldgs	149	-2	7.4	9.1
1,005.60	Tarmac	108	-4½	6.4	13.7
9.46	Tuca	86			
326.80	Travis Perkins	507		2.5	17.8
6.60	Tudor	59½	+2	5.6	11.8
167.00	Ultraframe	180	+4½	2.4	24.1
2,736.00	**Wolseley**	480	-25	3.0	15.5

CHEMICALS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
451.40	Albright & Wil	144	-2½	5.7	15.0
1,133.30	Allied Colloids	164½	-½	2.5	22.2
16.80	Amber Ind	107		6.7	8.5
56.80	Amberley Gp	102½	+1	2.0	17.3
4.50	Anglo Utd	0½			
12,727.60	BASF DM	2050½	-75	2.8	
4,756.90	**BOC**	985	-30	3.5	16.6
590.40	BTP	350	-3½	4.2	16.8
15,500.30	Bayer DM50	2140½	-18½	2.7	
70.00	Brent Chems	103½	+2	4.0	11.7
511.90	Br Vita	231	-14½	4.6	12.4
109.60	Brunner Mond	144	+½	7.6	7.9
73.00	Canning (W)	267		4.1	12.9
104.50	Cty Technology	214½	-1	3.1	20.1
1,153.60	Courtaulds	283½	-25	5.8	12.2
571.80	Croda	422½	+15	2.8	17.7
37.50	Doeflex	215½		4.6	9.2
270.30	Ellis & Everard	301	-1	4.2	13.4
26.30	Ferry Colour	57½	+1	5.3	10.7
14.70	Gibbs	138½	-1	6.3	9.4
114.40	Hickson	65			12.4
12,157.20	Hoechst	2059½	-125	2.3	
240.70	Holliday Chem	329		3.1	16.5
6,238.40	**ICI**	920	-37	4.0	31.6
412.30	Inspec	236	-4	3.4	11.7
504.10	Kalon	142	-13	4.8	21.2
1,245.60	Laporte	641	+6	4.5	12.9
57.90	Manders	245	-93½	5.9	30.6
18.60	Messton	50	+1	5.5	6.6
9.44	Metrotect	35	-½	5.8	8.7
30.90	Porvair	316		2.3	26.7
550.70	Scapa	229½	-1½	3.2	12.4
28.60	Sutcliffe Speak	19	-2½	7.7	6.2
14,464.30	Takeda Chem	1654	-129½	0.4	30.5
160.60	Victrex	231	+3½	2.6	
54.80	Wardle	685	-2½	4.7	12.8
39.60	Yates Gp	217½	+9	5.3	
203.50	Yule Catto	287½	-2	4.1	12.1

DISTRIBUTORS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
53.50	Arthur Gr Sales	196½	-2	1.6	19.8
14.00	Bain & Harvey	340	-10	8.3	5.1
4.53	Alexanders	11½	-1½	1.1	
52.90	Appleyard	79½	+½	5.7	
3.69	Alt Br Eng	4½			58.6
125.90	BSS Group	454	-6	5.3	13.6
5.12	Bearing Power	14½			
2.00	Bogod	3½	-3	3.3	5.4

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
209.90	Brammer	580½	+½	3.5	14.0
4.60	Bridgend Gpt	11½	-1	2.2	52.5
24.10	BIA Fittings	95		5.9	7.6
11.30	Caffyns	342		4.8	7.9
72.00	Car Group	188½	-2	3.1	17.8
39.70	Coverdale	138	+7½	3.4	8.0
36.40	Charles Sidney	87½		4.5	12.5
18.80	Cope (DC)	43½		7.7	6.1
18.70	Dag Motors	98½		10.4	6.3
16.70	Desmarc B	105½		3.3	9.7
124.90	Diplomat	233½		8.1	9.1
1,918.60	Electrocomponts	449	-4	2.3	24.2
89.70	Eurodis Elec	152½	-1	4.2	29.8
50.60	European Mtr	94		7.8	7.3
93.10	Evans Halshaw	290		7.1	
7.05	File Indmar	45½	-½	9.3	7.4
280.10	Finelist Grp	354½	+19	2.7	15.7
23.70	Gardner	21½		5.5	7.9
20.20	Glencheston	67½	-½	2.9	11.0
9.01	Grenings	90	-5½	4.3	15.0
22.10	HR Owen	13½	-½	6.7	9.1
6.71	Hamlet	22½			2.1
222.40	Headlam	327½		2.3	19.8
6.00	Holders Tech	150		5.4	12.2
28.20	ISA Intl	68½		5.5	5.3
850.60	Inchcape	160½	-6½	7.6	10.6
6.21	Jacks (Wm)	57½		5.4	7.4
609.00	Kwik-Fit	342½	+5	2.1	18.8
516.20	Lex Service	462	-3	4.5	13.6
36.10	Lookers	108	-1	9.3	7.7
40.50	Middlesex	5	-½	7.5	12.2
9.97	Midstates	19		3.2	
30.00	Norbain	273	-3	4.0	11.0
79.60	Northamber	233½	+1½	1.4	16.3
218.20	Partco	301	-11	3.4	16.0
162.00	Pendragon	256½	-7	4.8	11.7
47.20	Perry Gp	179½		6.4	7.9
1,127.10	Premier Farnell	415	+½	3.8	15.4
45.20	Quicks Group	120		7.8	8.0
26.50	REA	265	-2½	1.8	63.0
2.21	Reece	1½			41.8
10.30	Ronson	11½	-½		
5.17	Ross Gp	3½			
28.40	Ryland	100	-2½	5.1	9.4
27.70	SEP Ind	28	+½	5.7	
6.73	Sellers	26	-1	5.8	
93.00	Time Products	171½	-34½	9.0	7.1
33.50	Trust Motor Grp	156½	-6	9.0	6.9
82.80	UNIPCO	400		1.8	21.2
105.00	Utd Carriers Gp	88	+1½	0.5	19.6
140.10	Vardy (Reg)	245	-3½	4.0	11.4
94.90	WF Elect	650	+5	2.9	22.1
37.40	Whshart	40	+½	2.7	10.8
103.60	Wyko	146½	+2	2.6	16.3
33.80	Young (H)	150	-3½	3.9	10.4

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
518.60	Antofagasta	330	-7½	2.0	16.9
202.40	Ascot Hldgs	249	-2	2.6	10.9
10,940.50	Broken Hill	560½	+4½	3.6	15.3
7,270.20	**BTR**	180	-1	6.1	6.3
16,684.60	**BAT**	537	-30	6.1	13.3
1,143.00	Brierley Inv	42½	-½	11.1	7.0
1,342.20	Cookson	195	-1½	5.1	12.3
28.80	Cosalt	234½	+16½	6.0	9.3
346.10	DCC	414		2.4	15.4
2,287.70	Gallaher	331½	-3½	7.3	10.3
962.00	Harrisn Crsfld	134	+12	8.2	15.0
13,083.00	Hutch Whamp	361½	-18½	3.2	22.3
1,961.60	Imperial Tob	381½	-19½	7.0	9.4
2,130.40	Jardine Math	284½	+12½	5.3	11.2
707.00	Lonrho	89	-3	6.7	9.3
106.20	McLeod Russel	170		5.3	12.1
435.50	Powell Duffryn	503½	+13½	6.2	15.1
168.20	Stavert	144½	-2½	7.8	18.9
3,016.90	Swire Pacific	311	-11½	4.4	
468.90	TT Group	278½	-6½	3.6	11.3
3,363.00	Tomkins	285	-13	4.3	13.1
41.00	Unitacrt	207½		7.8	
107.30	Wardle Storeys	417½	-2½	6.1	12.8
514.30	Wassall	330½	+1	2.6	14.8
58.00	Whitecroft	131	+1½	4.4	21.2

ELECTRICITY

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
2,922.50	Br Energy	417½	-5½	4.2	41.1
3,511.50	**Energy Group**	674	-23	3.9	14.5
4,904.90	**National Grid**	295½	+½	5.0	13.3
5,967.00	**National Power**	572	-21	6.1	7.8
709.60	Nrn Ireland	504	-17	5.4	34.8
5,132.70	**PowerGen**	797	-27½	4.1	12.1
1,941.80	Hydro-Elect	496		4.6	11.2
6,089.50	**Scottish Power**	516½	-2½	4.6	12.8
2,395.80	Southern Elec	501	+2	5.6	13.2

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
67.90	Acal	338	-4½	3.7	11.0
125.30	Acorn	136½	-2		
449.40	Admiral	711	-1½	0.4	53.5
24.00	Amstrad	31½	+½	2.0	14.8
34.20	Arlen	32½		4.6	8.5
330.90	Astec	104	-7	2.2	12.2
59.10	Azlan	55½	+8		
684.10	BICC	163	-1	9.6	15.1
5.68	Beales Hunter	55½	+13	24.1	3.9
80.60	Bich	360	-5½	1.0	
741.30	Bowthorpe	376½	-4	3.4	15.1
3.52	Bulgin A	13½		7.1	16.1
24.20	CML Micro	152½	-5	5.0	18.2
38.00	Chamcl Hldgs	28½	-1½	7.2	8.9
92.50	Chloride	38	+1½	2.3	9.1
13.80	Clayhithe	67½		6.7	7.4
115.80	Critchley	730		2.3	19.3
371.00	Delta	247½	+2½	7.6	9.1
100.50	Domino	392½		3.8	17.2
148.30	Dowding Mills	77½	+4	5.1	13.2
75.10	Druck	240	+5	0.9	25.8
2,958.90	Electrolux B	4153½	-346½	2.3	21.6
24.10	Emess	22½		2.2	15.0
18,881.70	Ericsson B	2168½	-178½	0.9	
13.10	Eurocopy	28½	-2½	12.2	
340.90	Eurotherm	375	+11½	3.4	16.3
516.00	Fairey Group	515	+1½	2.1	15.6
195.60	Filtronic Com	442½	+14	0.4	68.2
3.88	Forward Tech	11½		2.8	
10,792.60	**GEC**	386	-14	4.4	17.7
22.00	Ind Control	40	-10½	6.2	6.6
6.49	Intelek	15½		8.1	
8.12	Kode	85½		3.7	7.2
5.66	LPA Indt	61½	+14	4.6	
158.30	Memec-Sa	305		2.7	15.2
13.60	Microvitec	17½	-1	6.3	
449.60	Mitel	425			
44.00	Network Tech	123	+15½	1.3	
145.50	Oxford Inst	291½	-15	3.3	10.2
94.30	Pace Micro	44	-1½	7.7	7.8
97.30	Pearl	79½		4.2	24.9
12,175.20	Philips Lmp Av	3906½	+71½	1.3	
10.80	Plasmec	225		3.6	13.4
8.68	Plasmon	44½	+2	6.2	
156.30	Pressac	312	+17	1.7	22.9
13.80	Prestwick	34	+2½	3.7	10.3
339.70	Psion	453½	-2½	0.6	37.5
736.60	Racal Elect	358	+10	2.9	48.6
16.60	Radamec	89½	-5½	4.3	13.7
253.70	Renishaw	349	-5½	3.1	21.5
3.81	Rodime	1½			
105.10	Roxboro	187	+5½	4.5	11.6
71.20	SDX Bus Sys	200½	+½	1.4	26.2
30.00	Servomex	291		3.7	16.2
37.00	Silvermines	44	+1	4.0	12.1
6,135.90	TDK	4606½	-93½	0.5	
14.30	TGI	65½	-1	6.7	6.7
180.60	TLG	99	-2½	5.2	11.7
4.25	Tadpole Tech	8½			
45.10	Telemetrix	49	-1½	3.7	21.2
72.60	Telspec	227½			
19.50	Thorpe FW	151½	-4	3.7	9.4
7.07	Total Systems	70		2.5	15.1
33.80	Tunstall	102½	+1	6.5	
199.90	Venty	68½	-½	0.2	
53.20	Vero	88½	+10	8.2	7.0
47.60	Viglen Technology	39	-3		
137.30	Volex	488½	+3	5.5	13.4
2.39	Wilshaw	10½			

ENGINEERING

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
39.30	ABI	272½	-5	4.1	8.9
29.60	ASW	35½	-1		
95.70	Alumasc	237½	-5	4.5	9.4
120.90	Alvis	162½	-1	2.1	
62.30	Ash & Lacy	166½		5.6	8.1
9.73	Ayrshire Metal	97½		7.1	5.4
1,666.70	624	339½	+12	2.1	20.0
40.90	BW	96½	-3½	5.8	9.5
130.40	Babcock	77	-4	2.1	
3.85	Bailey (CH)	2		1.6	
150.10	Baynes (Charles)	61	-2	4.1	10.6
21.30	Beauford	27	-½	3.7	12.6
11.00	Benson Group	32		6.0	29.8
296.70	Bertrand	193½	-3½	3.7	9.0
197.80	Bensi Cr Un Ln	85½		5.8	
251.90	Bodycote	842½	+½	1.2	24.9
3.22	Booth Inds	41½			
7,364.50	**Br Aerospace**	1670	-42	1.3	20.5
2,489.60	**Br Steel**	128	-10	9.6	11.7
10.30	Brooke Tool	135½		4.7	
17.10	Brunel	14	-½	4.8	
12.10	Bullough	100½		7.0	17.6
24.30	Carbo	31½		4.8	
134.60	Carclo Eng	218½	+1	6.2	12.9
12.70	Castings	216½	+¼	3.0	12.5
14.10	Chamberlin Hill	190		5.3	8.6
580.30	Charter	716½	-11	4.9	10.5
36.10	Chemring	153½	9	2.5	
39.40	Clyde Blowers	270		3.2	58.5
777.60	Cobham	832½	-24	1.2	23.4
3.44	Cohen (A)	430			
64.90	Concentric	119	-1½	7.7	24.6
14.20	David Brown	214½	-1	5.0	12.8
102.90	EIS	318	+6½	5.3	10.9
7.91	Eleco	20½	-1		
75.60	Elliott (B)	73½	-1	5.4	9.8
80.00	Expamet	126	+9½	3.5	14.2
1,269.70	FKI	197	-12½	3.6	17.0
192.60	Fenner	194½	-½	2.9	14.7
3.87	Ferrum	1½			
25.30	Firth Hldgs	31½		1.0	23.5
125.50	Firth Rixson	131	+10½	2.1	
14.70	Flare	50		2.5	4.4
35.90	GEI Intl	95		5.9	9.7
5.79	Garton Eng	148½	+4	6.8	5.3
615.50	Glynwed	250		6.4	10.6
13.90	Graystone	35		7.9	5.7
116.00	Haden MacLn	102	-½	3.6	11.3
15.00	Hadleigh	220	+17½	4.1	9.4
105.30	Hall Eng	195		5.0	8.4
259.70	Halma	117½	-2	2.7	15.8
92.40	Hampson Ind	72	-½	4.4	14.6
5.25	Hay (Norman)	35			14.9
6.72	Heaton	41½	-2	2.9	6.5
21.10	Hill & Smith	63½	-1		16.2
27.90	How Gp	66		4.1	10.7
23.70	Hunting	215		4.1	14.2
1,110.20	IMI	305	-9	3.8	14.6
1,171.30	Johnson Matth	539½	-6½	3.0	13.1
7.07	Jones Stroud	27½		6.8	11.3
12.90	Kelsey Ind	41½	-2½	8.9	
29.70	Lincat	312½	-6½	3.1	11.6
25.70	Locker (T)	31½	-2½	4.0	11.5
86.30	LB	57½	-½	4.0	11.2
5.99	MS Intl	21½	-½	3.5	
33.70	Marc Bolton	470	-3½	2.5	15.5
489.00	McKechnie	460	-7½	4.6	12.4
37.70	Meggitt	149		3.6	19.9
113.56	Metsec	31½	-1½	5.1	13.5
18.90	MetalTech	32½			
22.50	Metset	145½	-2	3.7	8.5
110.20	Molins	310½	-3	8.9	12.7
1,050.60	Morgan Cruc	460	+1½	4.1	15.2
47.40	Motts	391½		3.0	13.3
12.40	Nashpt	531½	-1½	4.7	11.6
11.90	OSB Intl	16		1.9	
18.30	Polyhedron	31½		8.8	5.0
571.40	Powerscreen	608½	-39	2.2	15.3
161.10	Quadramatic	255	+1½	6.1	
2.23	Quadrant Grp	4½	-3		
6.75	Radiant Metal	55			
79.70	Ransomes	57½		1.1	24.0
179.00	Renold	260½	-5	3.5	10.6
26.90	Richardson West	95	-5½	6.3	7.8
3,404.00	**Rolls-Royce**	230	-6	3.0	15.6
23.20	Rotork	770	-5	3.9	19.2
121.90	Rubicon	135	-2½	5.7	11.3
761.40	SKF B	1153½	-21½	3.4	
462.10	Senior Eng	152	-2	3.0	18.5
99.60	Spirent	500	-20½	1.8	22.2
5,616.60	**Siebe**	1110	-35	1.4	13.7
65.60	Sir Hundred	117½	-1½	5.3	8.3
2,548.10	**Smiths Ind**	830	-27	2.7	19.5
452.80	Spirax-Sarco	571	+1	3.1	14.8
80.00	Sterling Ind	263	+5½	4.8	9.5
2,251.30	TI	470	-26	3.7	15.0
16.30	Tinsley (E)	100	+2½	7.9	9.0
145.90	TransTect	82½	-4	3.7	11.3
182.00	Triplex Lloyd	272½	+10	3.3	15.4
237.90	Ultra Elect	366	+2½	2.2	21.3
24.40	Utd Inds	54½	+2	5.7	13.0
803.20	Vickers	237½	-1½	3.8	14.8
8.57	Vitec Gp	7½	-½		
306.90	Vitec	631½	-1	2.5	12.0
261.60	Vosper Thornyt	805		4.2	12.4
154.60	Wagon Ind	294½	+½	5.2	13.8
519.40	Weir	255½	-23	4.0	12.4
37.50	Wellington Hdg	159	-2½	6.4	9.2
70.50	Whitnall	48½		3.6	13.5
36.00	Wescol	65	+6½	2.3	15.6
185.90	Whatman	752½	-12½	2.3	22.0
5.45	Widney	45		10.3	17.3

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
124.10	Adwest	147½		5.6	12.1
13.60	Airflow Stmlines	160		6.2	11.5
170.60	Avon Rubber	622½	+2½	3.6	
56.70	Bostrom	333½		2.7	16.7
399.90	Britax	134½	+1	3.2	17.5
175.80	Dennis	313½		3.7	14.3
13.30	First Tech	279½	-6	1.6	22.0
4,364.80	**GKN**	1233	-10	2.8	
26,598.20	General Mtr	3553½	-368½	3.4	
213.30	Heywood	401	+½	4.8	9.6
20,917.30	Honda Motor	2146½	-96½	0.4	
630.70	Laird	443½	-9	3.2	
2,988.40	LucasVarity	213	+13½	2.3	13.6
447.10	Mayflower	177	-½	1.7	25.1
30.70	Sylone	126½	+6	6.5	10.3
1,369.40	T & N	251½	-1	4.6	
7.30	Toad	25	-2½		

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
4,815.00	**AB Food**	535	-5	2.4	17.0
112.80	Acatos & Hutch	257½	-28½	5.2	
362.90	Albert Fisher	38½	-1	11.5	3.5
36.20	Banks (S C)	281½	-1	5.1	10.0
81.00	Barr (AG)	417½		3.2	13.9
17.60	Bensons Crisp	34½	+2	4.1	8.6
752.50	Booker	306½	-24	9.9	
12.70	CPL Aromat	97		6.2	27.9
6,070.10	**Cadbury-Schw**	601	-3½	3.4	16.3
20.60	Carrs Milling	258	+11½	5.6	8.8
47.30	Caughton	70½	-1½	6.6	13.1
35.08	Cranswick	244½	-1	5.3	11.7
277.10	Dairy Crest Group	250½	-½	3.1	10.6
793.70	Dalgety	273½	-7	6.1	
29.10	Daniels SI	40½	+1½	0.9	22.6
597.80	Devro	375½	-3	2.9	16.8
111.60	Finlay (James)	111½	+½	4.0	20.5
294.10	Geest	404	+½	2.7	18.9
20.10	Global	13½	-½	6.1	7.1
551.20	Greencore	293½	-4	3.0	
380.50	Hazlewood Fds	163½	-3	5.4	11.8
1,078.90	Hillsdown	148½	+½	8.4	9.2
21.60	JLI Group	56	+½	11.0	21.7
79.30	Linton Park	398½		5.0	8.5
126.40	Matthews (B)	101½	-½	5.2	9.7
79.40	Nichols (V)	309	-4½	4.5	11.7
1,515.70	Nthn Foods	259	-13	4.7	14.9
12.70	Hilsdon	30½	+1½	1.2	10.6
16.30	Paramount Foods	87½		7.3	9.9
5.57	Pascoe's	56			61.3
162.50	Perkins Food	104½	-½	5.0	11.3
23.80	Plant & Gen	74		2.7	
6.83	Sentry Farm	91	-2½	7.0	8.4
11.70	Sims Food	32	-4		3.3
2,186.90	Tate & Lyle	490		3.7	13.3
12.70	Treatt	126		5.7	36.6
1,430.40	Unigate	598	+4½	4.3	14.4
15,799.50	**Unilever**	484½	-26½	2.1	22.3
22,845.50	Unilever (NV)	3568½	-231½	1.6	16.6
1,113.40	Utd Biscuits	210	-1	6.0	16.3
36.60	WT Foods	45½	-1½	4.1	17.5
3.67	Yorkshire Foods	9½			

HEALTHCARE

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
22.50	Assoc Nursg	137	+1	3.5	21.6
176.30	Bespak	694	-5	2.2	23.6
336.70	Biocompos Intl	455	-100		
270.30	Care First	168½	+16½	3.0	
86.60	Care UK	145		1.1	
83.70	Celsis	84	-1		
133.00	Community H	380	+½	3.7	15.4
53.60	CrestaCare	28½	+½	4.2	13.6
1.55	Emmerce	6	-½		
143.20	Ferrans Group	126½	+1½	3.2	11.8
69.20	Hanfigh Tec	141		2.7	17.8
40.00	Innovative Tech	108½	+13½		
19.70	Intercare Gp	69½	-2	6.5	11.0
46.10	Isotron	485	+5	1.6	19.1
546.80	London Intl	158½		2.2	21.2
149.20	Nestor Hlth	193½	+16	2.3	25.3
2,170.90	Nycomed Amsh	2238	-112	0.9	50.4
0.43	Premier Health	5½			
180.80	Scholl	259	-9½	3.9	16.2
281.10	Seton Health	506½	+22½	2.3	19.7
140.00	Shield Diag	700	-72½		
1,989.40	Smith & Neph	179	-½	3.9	17.0
18.40	Tanans	2½		4.6	15.5
569.30	UniChem	317	-2½	3.6	24.4
229.80	West Hillcare	358½	+1	2.3	21.1

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
36.40	Airsprung	152½	-1	5.3	9.6
93.20	Alba	193	-3½	4.0	10.9
7.12	Amourt	19	-2	4.9	46.7
10.50	BLP Group	158½	+4½	4.7	5.9
4.23	Balson	47½		3.9	24.6
24.60	Black Arrow	98½	-1	5.5	8.1
239.20	Black (Peter)	391½		2.0	19.9
68.30	Cornwell Pkr Sp	163½		2.3	13.8
6.07	Creighton	30½	+10½		
9.96	Dailywel	9½	-1½	9.5	
53.40	Denby Group	157½		3.6	
46.80	Eclipse Blinds	112	-½	3.6	10.3
5.33	Eibel	42		3.6	7.9
20.50	Gedell	419	+8	1.7	14.2
184.80	IWP Intl	262½		2.4	11.7
14.90	Jourdan (T)	48½	-½	3.9	
46.40	Kenwood Appl	101	-6½		
11.20	Lookhart	13	-½	1.0	26.7
108.90	McBride	177	-½	4.9	14.2
24.20	Mayborn	103½	+13	9.8	5.6
34.60	Osborne & Little	557½		4.7	11.1
106.10	Paterson Zch	435	-2½	4.9	10.2
66.80	Paterson Zch A	377½	-2½	5.7	6.8
21.00	Pifco	201½	-1½	3.7	11.2
13.70	Pifco 'A' Vtg	198½		3.8	11.0
3,675.20	**Reckitt Coln**	903	-41	2.9	16.4
94.70	Relyon	434½	-2	4.3	12.3
117.60	Royal Doulton	213½	-1	5.7	12.2
128.70	Salesmight	275		4.7	12.0
9.45	Stoddard	14½	-½	6.6	31.2
64.30	Stoves	251		2.9	18.0
23.80	Swallowfield	212½	-3	4.5	11.2
10.10	Tomkinsons	155	+3	9.3	8.4
5.34	Victoria	73½		4.0	12.4
53.90	Walker Greenbk	45	+2½	12.3	3.4
582.30	Waterford Wdgwd	90	-½	2.0	21.9
3.90	Wood (Arthur)	135		4.5	13.3

INSURANCE

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
7,726.20	Am Gen	3179	-218½	2.6	
152.20	Angerstein	123	-3	10.4	9.3
38.30	Bradstock	59½	-2½	12.7	
2,111.60	Britannic	1089	-31½	3.8	15.3
112.00	CLM Insce	129	-1	10.5	10.1
5,762.40	**Com Union**	840	58	4.3	12.5
254.90	Cox Insce	235½	-[illegible]	1.5	[illegible]
167.60	Dom & Gen	430	-5	[illegible]	[illegible]
12.60	FBD IE	299½	-11	3.1	10.5
47.50	Fosbury Under	150	-12	3.5	12.0
4,371.20	**Gen Accident**	1025	-60	4.3	6.5
2,882.20	**GRE**	315	-9	3.9	[illegible]
239.70	Hibernian IE	456½	+12½	2.5	11.2
240.10	Hiscox	193	-1	2.5	12.9
42.80	Hiscox Select	143	+1	2.4	[illegible]
521.90	Independent	1147½	-20	1.5	12.2
1,002.70	Irish Life	320½	-½	4.2	12.4
330.50	Jardine Lyd Th	177½	+9½	7.6	14.2
27.30	Kiln Capital	107	-1	2.7	
95.00	Lambert Fen	107	+½	10.1	7.4
6,338.10	**Legal & Gen**	509	-27½	2.3	13.7
3,688.40	Liberty Life	1512½	-71½	2.6	
406.10	Limit	143½	-1	5.4	8.7
594.70	Londn & Man	821½	-33	5.5	13.4
6,260.80	Marsh McLn	4246½	-305½	2.9	
45.10	Masthead	112		13.1	7.3
61.30	New London Cap	95½	-2½	8.3	[illegible]
7,455.60	**Norwich Union**	380	-20	2.5	19.7
51.80	Ockham	98	-3½	5.7	
31.90	Omni	57		7.4	[illegible]
23.20	Premium Trust	117		4.2	27.3
13,863.50	**Prudential**	715	-35	2.6	16.8
4.93	PWS	16	-½		
9,039.20	**Royal & Sun Al**	585	-35	4.2	22.0
666.40	St James Place	163	-13	1.1	26.2
777.10	Sedgwick	140½	-4	5.2	11.5
15.40	Steel Burrill	28		6.7	
3,373.80	**Sun Life & P**	415	-12½	2.2	22.5
61.40	Syndicate Cap	112½	-½	3.9	11.1
1,793.70	Utd Assurance	510	-10	4.7	16.2
13.10	Wellington	140	-2½	4.1	9.5
613.20	Willis Corroon	145	-1½	5.7	15.5
5.68	Windsor	11½		7.5	

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
2,916.50	3i	591	-21	2.4	29.4
47.70	Abrdn New Dawn	110½	-1½	1.3	[illegible]
179.20	Aberforth Smllr	375	-1½	2.4	[illegible]
15.00	Aberforth Spl Wts	119	-1½		
25.20	Abtrust Emerg	58½	-2½	0.9	
58.00	Abtrust High Inc	54½	+½	8.9	14.0
1,247.40	Alliance	1475	-62	2.9	31.4
462.90	Anglo & O'seas	580	-17½	2.2	46.4
9.31	Aust Opps	56½		0.5	
16.70	Baillie Gifford Shin	52½	-6		
374.20	Bankers	241½	-4½	2.7	
111.70	Baring Em Eu	90	-4		
236.30	Baring Tribune	464½	-5	2.2	[illegible]
370.20	Br Assets	114½	-2½	6.4	[illegible]
199.80	Br Empire Secs	105½	-2½	[illegible]	[illegible]
26.40	Brazilian	50½	-2½		
275.10	Brunner	330½	-10	3.2	45.9
56.30	BZW Conv	110		8.5	
86.50	Cairngorm Dem	38½	+½		
167.50	Candover	779	-6½	2.5	41.8
132.60	Central Euro Gwth	62½	-½		
472.00	City of Lon	227½	-2	3.9	31.4
56.90	Conti Asset	234	3	1.5	[illegible]
5.47	Danae Inv Inc	74½		12.1	5.5
81.70	Derby Cap	530½	-4½		
15.60	Derby Inc	132	-1½		
277.80	Dunedin Inc G	173½	-6	4.2	22.5
55.90	Dunedin Smlr	327½	-½	3.4	
286.80	Dunedin Wrldw	127	-4½	1.5	
165.60	EFM	255	+20½	0.2	
141.20	Edin Dragon	52½	-1½		
21.60	Edinburgh Inca	76½	-1		
1,203.10	Edinburgh IT	477½	-12½	3.3	32.6
30.80	Edin Japan	93½	-3		
361.20	Edin US Tch	471½	-17½	1.6	75.9
917.00	Electra Invt	529½	+8½	2.3	
257.50	Eng & Scot	157½	-4½	2.4	41.0
92.50	European Asset	371	-5	1.3	
63.30	Fidelity Asian Val	62½	-2½		
155.00	Fidelity Euro Val	271½	-4½	0.2	
26.10	Fidelity Jap Val	24½	-2½		
49.90	Fidelity Spec Val	133	-2½	1.2	66.4
35.90	Finsbury 'A'	224½		2.2	81.2
79.60	Finsbury Gwth	173		2.5	48.5
136.80	Five Arrows Chile	148½	-8½	1.6	78.1
0.14	Five Arrows Wts	8	-1½		
379.30	Fleming Amer	532	-20	0.7	
83.10	Fleming Asian	53½	-4½		
2.60	Fleming Asian Wts	8½	-1		
34.20	Fleming Chinese	56½	-4		
2.34	Fleming Ch Wts	19½	-3		
231.00	Fleming Claver	383½	-6	2.1	54.4
299.70	Fleming Contl	459		1.1	
107.20	Fleming Em Mkts	110½	-9½	0.5	
109.40	Fleming Ento	273½	-1½	2.4	40.7
48.30	Fleming Fledg	383	-4½	0.3	
93.70	Fleming Inc Cap	101½	+½	7.0	19.3
86.50	Fleming Ing Inct	107½	+½	11.0	11.1
99.60	Fleming Ing Cap	247½	-9		
38.70	Fleming Indian	42	+1½		
1.64	Fleming In Wts	9½	+1		
260.90	Fleming Japan	133½	-17½		
544.80	Fleming Merc	377	-10	3.8	34.2
30.30	Fleming Nat Res	73½	-½	0.9	
466.80	Fleming Overs	351½	-12½	1.6	76.8
39.50	Fleming Smlr Co	148		3.8	
1,749.90	Foreign & Col	166½	-6½	1.2	57.2
43.10	F&C Inc Gwth	98½	-3½	4.5	27.7
189.90	F&C Emg Mkts	101	-½		
173.00	F&C Enterprise	184	+2½	1.6	61.6
229.30	F&C Eurotst	358½	-3½	0.4	
59.90	F&C German	152½	-4½	0.5	
245.20	F&C Pacific	106½	-8½	2.2	50.8
85.50	F&C PEP	145½		3.9	
195.60	F&C Smaller	177½	+¼	1.9	51.8
75.50	F&C US Smlr	150	-6		
24.00	Framlin Inc	61½	-¼	10.7	11.4
25.70	Framlin Cap	107½	-2½		
4.64	Framl Dual Cp	132½	-4		
5.94	Fulcrum Cap	37	+2½		
2.02	Fulcrum Inct	18		59.4	2.0
16.30	Fulcrum Zero	188½	+½		
135.20	Gartmore Brit	270½		4.2	
91.50	Gartmore Euro	237	-1½	0.8	
37.30	Gartmore Shrd	109½	+1½	11.3	11.3
48.50	G'more Smlr Cost	336½	+½	2.2	49.7
32.60	Geared Inc Ord	52½	+1	10.6	8.7
32.60	Geared Inc Inc	52½	+1	10.6	6.7
44.10	Genl Cons Cap	243½	-9½		
36.60	Genl Inc	101	+½	15.4	9.5
36.00	Gov Asn Sm Cos	96	-8	0.7	
31.20	Gov Emg Mks	82	-1½	0.6	
41.90	Govett Am Smlr	167½	-12½		
39.20	Govett High Inc	82	-2	8.8	
331.50	Govett Oversist	92½	-10	0.9	
365.80	Govett Strategic	372½	-5	2.5	35.2
1.01	Gresham House	23½		1.3	1.4
64.90	GT Inc Growth	130½	-2½	3.4	41.4
96.30	GT Japan	154½	-11½	0.6	
22.60	Gun R Ex Inct	114½	-½	9.0	
23.40	Henderson Am Cp	62½	-1½		
8.93	Henderson Am In	117½	+1	8.4	15.2
2.33	Henderson Am Wt	31	-1		
254.00	Hend Elec Gen	281	-4½	1.7	64.9
64.00	Hend Far East	114	+1½	7.5	16.3
54.90	Hend Greater	454	-4½	2.0	64.7
79.40	Hend High Inct	151	-2	5.5	33.3
31.80	Hend Jap Smllr	31½	-4½		
392.90	Hend Smlr	220½	-3	2.2	53.1
87.10	Hend Strata	500½	-6½	0.1	
122.20	Hend TR Pac	61½	-1½	0.5	68.6
47.30	Hend Tech	90½	-3½		
111.10	Herald	134	-3½	0.8	
24.10	High Income TI	106		8.0	13.3
120.40	H Govett Smlr	142½	-½	2.6	50.5
0.85	IBS Ent	28½			
41.00	IBS UK Smllr	141	-4½	2.6	56.4
456.90	Inv Cap	185½	+3	3.6	28.0
53.40	Inv Biotech	84	-6		
1.02	Inv Biotec Wts	13½	-7½		
12.80	Inv Biotec C	66	-7½		
56.50	INVESCO Asia	50½	-5½	1.6	61.7
9.60	INVESCO Blnet	76	-1	13.8	8.9
159.60	INVESCO Eng Inc	181	-1½	8.9	75.4
6.56	INVESCO Jap Dis	23½	-4		
9.07	INVESCO Korea	27½	-6½		
28.90	INVESCO Tokyo	25½	-2½		
53.20	JF Fledg Jap	84½	-9½		
14.70	J Fry Euro U	138	+4	4.9	30.1
41.00	J Fry Util	67½	-½	10.0	15.6
48.30	J Fry UtP Inc	83½		8.0	
44.60	Jupiter Ex Inc	120	+1	8.2	15.2
1.12	Jupiter Ex IncWt	18½	+3½		
12.70	Jupiter Gl Capt	91	+1	11.0	11.2
15.40	Jupiter Gl Pfd	44	-½		
34.30	Jupiter Intl Grn	136½		3.6	
294.00	Klnwrt Chart	363	-6½	2.8	54.1
26.10	Klnwrt E Mkt	90½	+½		
50.20	Klnwrt End	167½	-2½		
34.80	Klnwt H Inct	116		11.6	11.8
270.70	Klnwt O'seas	337½	-1	1.5	65.4
22.00	Klnwt Smlr	174		2.6	46.5
61.70	Korea-Euro	131½	-2	0.9	61.1
106.40	Latin American	118½	-6½		
252.30	Law Debenture	1090	-6	3.2	33.0
37.60	Lds Oil Opp	116½	-½		
33.30	Lloyds Sm Cos	127½	-1		
4.48	Lloyds Sm Dev	18½	-½	25.8	4.6
35.30	Lloyds Sm Pkg	146	-1	3.6	
57.10	Lon St Lawrence	174	-½	4.6	27.0
50.10	Lowland	342	-3	4.2	29.3
79.50	M&G 2nd Dual Cp	795	-7½		
8.85	M&G 2nd Dual In	68½	-1½		2.2
75.50	M&G Inc Securit	75	-½	9.6	13.4
13.50	M&G Inc Inv Tst Cp	52½			
56.10	M&G Inc Inv Tst Inct	33½	-½		3.7
27.20	M&G Inc Package	139	-½	4.8	26.7
[illegible]	M&G Inc Zero Div	77½	-½		
42.10	M&G Rec Cap	31½	-½		
[illegible]	M&G Rec Geared	53½		12.7	10.2
[illegible]	M&G Rec Inc	22½	+¼	30.3	4.3
182.70	M&G Rec Pkge	161	+½	4.2	30.9
148.50	M&G Rec Zero Div	105½	+½		
37.90	M Currie Euro	168½	-½	0.6	
[illegible]	M Currie Japan	82½	-10½		
45.30	M Currie Pac	110½	+6½	1.0	75.4
156.10	Mercury Emerg Mkts	295½		3.0	44.3
356.00	Merchants	347	-9½	5.0	25.4
953.50	Mercury Euro Pvt	130½	-1½	2.2	37.5
[illegible]	Mercury Eur Wt	50½	-½		
253.70	Mercury World	60	-1½	2.4	50.3
0.63	Mercury Wld Wts	0½			
[illegible]	Monks Inv Tst	684½	-21	1.8	55.2
69.50	Morg Gren Inct	185	+2½	4.6	25.9
[illegible]	Morg Gren Wts	80½	-3		
[illegible]	Morg Lat Amer	75½	-3	0.5	
[illegible]	Morg Wts	25	-2		
[illegible]	Murray Ent	112½	-3½	1.5	37.8
[illegible]	Murray Ent Wts	13	-1		
[illegible]	Murray Emg Eco	60½	-1½	1.1	
[illegible]	Murray Em Ec Wt	10			
377.50	Murray Income	437½	-7	4.1	31.3
619.50	Murray Intl	432½	-13½	3.9	30.0
13.20	Murray S/C DP	205½	+4		
15.00	Murray S/C Cap	267½	-4		
4.88	Murray S/C Inc	61	-½	24.6	4.9
1.25	Murray S/C Uts	4362½	-12½	3.5	
194.10	Murray Smaller	346	-17	2.2	44.6
98.80	Murray Vent	400	-1½	4.7	24.2
12.80	Natwest Ent	280½	-½	2.2	43.2
1.90	Newmarket	5½	-½		
162.30	O'seas Inv Tst	439	-9	1.1	
4.52	O'seas Wts	252	-4		
88.80	Pacific Assets	51½	-2½	1.0	79.3
28.70	Perpetual Euro	79½	-1½	0.7	
214.40	Perp Inc Gth	123½	-3	3.9	36.9
10.40	Perpetual Jap	28½	-2½		
45.40	Perp UK Sm Co	324		3.7	29.0
33.60	Personal Assets	£168	-100	1.7	
67.60	Prolific Inc	128	-1½	4.1	27.7
492.90	RIT Cap Ptnr	272	-7	0.8	
6.32	Robeco	548½	-8½	2.0	
34.80	Rolinco	548½	-8½	1.6	
70.30	Schrod Asia Pac	59½	-2	1.3	
65.60	Schrod Emg Cnt	67½	+1½		
113.00	Schrod Inc Gwth	142	+2	4.0	25.5
68.60	Schrod Jap Gwth	48½	-3½		
8.08	Schrod Korea	134½	-40		
12.30	Schrod Split Cap	43½	-2½		
65.90	Schrod Split Inct	118½	+1½	8.9	14.5
58.20	Schrod Split Zero	154½			
317.80	Schrod UK Gwth	140½	-3½	3.1	37.5
172.20	Schrod Vent Intl	168½	+1	1.3	
880.00	Scot	318½	-13½	2.6	
414.20	Scot American	185½	-7½	3.8	37.1
33.60	Scot Asian	119½	-12½		
716.00	Scot Eastern	113	-4	2.1	44.8
1,150.00	Scot Mtge	319	-18½	2.0	48.8
160.90	Scot Natl Tst	100½	-½	10.2	10.5
58.89	Scot Value	132½	-1½	2.0	25.8
419.50	Second Alliance	2185	-52½	2.9	40.9
359.50	Secs Tst of Scot	112½	-3½	4.2	31.2
30.40	Shires Smlr	156		4.9	25.1
86.60	Smaller Cos	134		3.0	40.2
121.60	St Andrew Inv	353½	+1	3.4	36.7
274.80	Temple Bar	477	-15	4.3	27.2
254.40	Throgmorton	83½	-1½	3.4	40.0
528.40	Tpltn Emg Mkt	112½	-4	1.2	69.6
254.80	TR Euro Growth	168½	-3½	0.7	
208.20	TR Property	44½		3.0	31.1
46.60	TR Tech Inv	395	-4½	12.9	29.4
31.80	Turkey Trust	321	+1	1.4	66.9
152.50	Undervalued Ast	144½	-2½	2.0	63.9
73.30	Value Inc Tst	161	-½	3.6	33.5
98.60	Value Real	102½	-1	1.0	51.4
11.60	Voyageur Er Smlf	115		0.7	
32.20	Warrants & Val	40½	-½		
17.80	Wigmore	67½		1.1	
1,165.30	Witan	310½	-6½	2.7	43.7
16.60	Yeoman Invt	67½	-1	10.2	4.3

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LEISURE & HOTELS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
9.43	ABI Leis	28½		7.1	
1,712.40	Airtours	1200		2.1	18.5
33.90	Ald Leis	28½	-1½	4.4	9.3
87.00	Arcadian	58	+½	2.6	24.5
35.70	Arena Leis	19	-½		
10.20	BS Group	155		5.2	
22.90	Baldwin	120	+2	4.2	16.8
35.80	Bluebird Toys	86	+1½	13.1	6.4
156.80	Boosey Hwks	800		1.5	30.0
28.00	Bowdene	28	-½	9.6	
157.60	Capital Corpn	155	+1½	6.6	17.5
30.50	Character Grp	146½	-3	3.9	9.5
30.70	Cliveden	88	-½	4.6	13.7
70.70	Clubhaus	81½			22.2
83.20	Eurocamp	232½	-4	7.0	
543.20	Euro Disney	71	-5		
47.90	Euro Leisure	135	+11½	3.7	5.9
235.70	First Choice	99	+4	3.6	
469.40	First Leisure	285½	+14	3.8	15.6
26.60	Friendly Hotels	121½	-½	5.9	18.1
8,232.80	**Granada**	924	+23	2.0	19.0
21.00	Hi-Tec Sports	41½	-2½	3.6	9.3
147.60	Holmes Place	218½	+21	1.7	27.6
14.30	Hornby	168½		4.9	8.1
75.60	Hogshead	315	-1	4.6	16.3
285.80	Jarvis Hotels	151	-1	3.5	9.7
156.40	Jurys Hotel	353½	-17½	2.2	15.8
50.70	Kunick	23½	+1	4.1	
3,132.30	**Ladbroke**	265	-6½	3.0	23.9
465.70	London Clubs	317	-4	3.3	22.8
106.90	Macdonald Hlst	182½		3.2	13.7
403.20	Man Utd	157½	-1	1.2	21.1
264.90	Mandarin Orntl	37½	+2½	18.0	7.1
595.50	Millennium & Cop	411	+7½	2.1	17.1
13.30	Millwall Hldgs	1½			
134.80	Newcastle Utd	94	-4½	2.1	13.2
218.00	Northern	393½	+6	1.9	30.7
5.57	Prism Leisure	65½	-9	13.7	3.3
27.40	Queensborough	24		2.1	10.3
48.30	Queens Moat	12½			3.5
2,559.10	**Rank Gp**	338½	-½	8.4	21.0
37.40	Ryan Hotels IE	52	-½	4.2	10.9
336.10	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1175	-17½	1.9	
24.70	Sheffield United	49½	-1		
50.90	Sinclair (Wm)	225	+5	4.9	11.9
30.70	Southampton	76	-2	1.6	
727.20	Stakis	95	-2½	3.3	14.2
280.10	Stanley Leisure	253½	+½	2.0	20.7
4.23	Tandem	4½	-1		54.3
1,300.10	Tanjong	346		0.9	35.8
966.10	Thistle Hotels	156½	-1	3.0	14.5
77.00	Tottenham Hot	76½	-1	1.6	10.4
174.40	Vardon	132½	+4½	2.1	15.7
164.00	Wembley	296½	+14	1.3	69.4
10.70	Zetters Gp	150½	+12	9.1	9.2

MEDIA

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
250.00	Abbott Mead	332½	+1	2.2	25.9
33.60	Adscene	155	+7½	6.3	16.9
561.00	Aegis Gp	67½	+2	1.0	19.0
14.20	Aspen Grp	91½	-1½	8.5	
81.20	Atlantic Telecom	160½			
6.10	BBB Design	73½	+5½		
33.10	Barbour Index	191½	-5	6.5	31.3
2.44	Batcsta	1½			
4.97	Black (A&C)	320		5.5	15.3
29.70	Border TV	291½	-10	3.0	22.2
67.10	Bristol	411½		4.9	14.1
11.40	Bolt Alleroll	131½	-6	1.7	20.0
7,533.60	**BSkyB**	438	-11	1.7	27.0
100.50	CIA Gp	165	+½	1.8	31.6
355.60	Capital Radio	482½	-27½	3.6	15.0
2,731.50	**Carlton Comms**	450	+7	3.5	12.7
186.60	Chrysalis	600	+28½	0.6	
6.76	City of Lon	84½		8.1	10.9
221.30	Cordiant Comms	100	-5	1.5	11.9
118.20	Creative Pub	144	+½	6.7	51.0
102.50	Daily Mail	2050	+65½	1.4	23.9
1,963.00	Daily Mail 'A'	1985½	+81½	1.5	23.0
216.60	Dialog	144½	-11½		
153.80	Dorling Kind	217½	+11	2.6	36.0
1,856.10	EMAP	888½	+13½	1.9	30.9
3,757.10	EMI	478	+27	3.5	65.6
8,437.60	Elsevier	979½	-17	2.6	22.6
344.70	Euromoney Pbl	1580	-20	4.0	17.4
19.90	Fitch	52½	+2	1.5	12.9
830.30	Flextech	528½	-16½		
139.40	GGT Group	200	+1½	3.0	
183.50	GWR Gp	168½	-3	2.1	31.9
61.80	Gearhouse Group	345	-5	2.4	13.2
13.50	Goodhead	33½	+1	1.5	17.3
41.60	HIT Entert	290		0.2	43.1
17.80	Haynes Pub	285		5.0	11.8
8.57	Highbury Hse	9½	+½		
73.10	Hodder H'line	207		4.0	14.1
48.70	Home Counts	482½	+245	1.5	46.9
155.80	IBC	394½	-2	3.1	13.8
30.80	Incepta	19½			11.7
847.70	Independent	342½		2.4	23.9
6.33	Interseepe	137½	+2½	4.3	10.1
410.80	Johnston Press	205	-5½	1.6	18.8
15.90	Lopex	29½	-1½	3.6	7.9
120.30	Maiden	306		2.3	18.7
19.60	Mediakey	27½	+1½	5.2	10.5
102.00	Metal Bulletin	1020		2.8	28.1
391.00	Midland Ind	211		2.7	21.9
862.30	Mirror Gp	194	-1½	3.0	13.2
317.20	Mosaic Grp	782½	+2½	2.5	18.6
6,343.40	News Corp	325½	-2½	0.4	14.6
4,387.60	News Corp Pref	286½	-3	1.0	
527.00	Newsquest	263½	+7	2.6	16.2
3.59	On Demand Inf	6½			
4.41	Osprey Comms	15	-½		20.8
4,454.00	**Pearson**	775	-48	3.0	53.8
25.10	Phonelink	52	+12		
104.10	Portsmth Sundy	807½		2.2	17.8
13.00	Quarto	70½		14.2	3.2
6,771.80	**Reed Intl**	594	-27	2.9	21.1
10,994.10	**Reuters**	640	-2	2.3	21.6
243.00	Saatchi	109½	-3	1.4	29.6
431.90	Scot Med	667½	-21½	3.7	16.8
102.20	Scot Radio	981½	+6½	3.1	
56.68	Shandwick	40½	+½	4.4	7.3
3.00	Sleepy Kids	13	-½	0.8	
72.60	Southnews	454	+19	2.3	15.6
14.40	Sterling Pub	17½	-1½		3.9
298.10	Taylor Nelson	88½	+3	1.4	30.4
58.30	Television Cp	205		2.0	15.3
9,527.60	Thomson Corp	1569½	+7½	2.9	33.1
646.10	Trinity Intl	466½	-5	3.3	16.2
128.40	Ulster TV	256½	-4½	2.8	23.5
3,450.20	**United News**	697	-9½	4.4	
37.40	VCI	96	-10½	10.3	5.0
8.77	VTR	80½		7.7	8.2
146.50	Visual Action	292½		2.0	25.4
1,947.50	WPP	284½	-1	0.8	17.9
87.30	Wilmington	122½	+½	1.2	27.1

MINING

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
756.80	Ang Am Coal	2775	+50	6.2	6.6
5,664.40	Ang Am	2425	-37½	3.6	
553.20	Ang Am Gold	2290½	+140½	7.1	
1,031.40	Anglo Am Plat	809½	-109½	2.4	
15.20	Anglo Pac Res	174½	-½		
88.10	Arcon Intl	30	-2		
590.00	Ashanti	531½	+25½	3.4	14.1
147.40	Ashton	52½	-1½	10.7	
35.00	Avocet	98	-8½		
193.10	Beatrix	213½	+30½	8.1	11.2
3,153.80	Billiton	147½	-3½	4.1	15.4
3.41	Bisichi	32½	+2	3.1	38.5
77.20	Bougainville	18½	+½		
224.50	Central Pacific	223½	+7½		
1.63	Cons Murchison	24½	+1		
4,683.10	De Beers	1231½	-28½	4.8	12.2
832.90	Driefontein	408½	+1½	3.2	
6.54	Durban	71	-23½		
34.80	E Rand Gold	67½	+6½	25.6	3.8
17.20	E Rand Prop	11½	-½		
183.60	Elandsrand	157½	+28	11.4	
823.70	Eng China Cl	287	-17	5.9	30.4
45.80	Evander	119½	+21	13.4	3.0
332.60	FS Cons	278½	+35½	13.9	7.2
4.76	FS Dev	21½	+½		
885.50	GFSA	912½	+40½	3.1	
306.50	Gencor	89½	-4½	4.1	5.8
11.30	Gold Fields Prop	110½	-11	7.2	9.2
18.40	Greenwich R A	15½	+½		
25.90	Gwalia Cons	33	+1	2.4	8.8
41.00	Harmony	142½	+10		
345.40	Impala Plat	546½	-9½	1.8	
9.20	Kenmare Res	12½			
27.58	Kidston	22	+2		
302.80	Kloof	218½	+19½	6.2	
6.11	Medusa	7½	-½		
611.10	MIM	37½	-½	2.6	
2,261.70	Minorco	1003½	-59½	3.8	9.3
4.25	Montagle	65	-30	7.4	12.3
936.20	Normandy	58	+3	4.1	12.3
1,059.20	North	153½	-2½	3.3	21.4
6.05	Petaling Tin	30	-10	1.6	
189.40	RGC	90½	+2	4.3	4.7
192.50	RJB	132	-31½	20.8	1.6
11.90	Rackwood	28	-1½	14.7	6.5
58.20	Randfontein	93½	+17½	6.6	21.7
7,557.60	**Rio Tinto**	705	-28	4.7	14.0
4,304.30	Rio Tinto Ltd	670	-10	4.1	16.2
15.70	St Barbara	7½	+1		
17.60	St Helena	182½	-2½	11.5	
140.40	Sons Gwalia	137	+7	7.2	10.0
293.80	Sthn Pacific	105½	+7½		
254.90	Southvaal	981½	+143½	10.6	9.5
468.50	Vaal Reefs	2450	+462½	8.9	
2,277.80	WMC	202½	-1	3.3	17.9
40.80	Wankie Col Z	27		4.1	9.5
4.81	Water Hall	65			
32.70	Watts Blake	441½		4.6	15.5
315.20	Western Deep	1137½	+134½	7.1	
135.90	Zambia Copper	110½	-32½		

OIL & GAS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
236.20	Abbot Group	168		1.5	27.0
7.15	Alliance Res	25	+2		
29.40	Aus Oil & Gas	65½	-2½		
6.31	Aviva Pet	29	-½		
971.20	Br Borneo	411	-7½	0.8	53.1
10,872.00	**BG**	276½	-11	3.6	19.7
45,951.90	**Br Petroleum**	797½	-23½	3.4	17.9
20.30	Bula Resources	1½			
2,154.80	Burmah Castrl	1015	-20	5.7	14.2
840.50	Cairn Energy	495	-12½		
3,948.00	Centrica	89	-½		
27.80	Claplex	13½	-1		
181.40	Dana Pet	22½			
240.50	Dragon Oil	70	+5		
9.25	Edin Oil & Gs	25½		13	17.1
52.50	Emerald Energy	6			
2,890.10	Enterprise	581½	-3½	3.7	21.4
173.10	Fortune	13	-½		48.9
354.70	Hardy Oil	283½	-1½	0.6	61.4
15.80	Int Tool & Sup	6½			
48.40	JKX Oil & Gas	41½	-4		
137.80	KBC Adv Tech	300½	-3	1.4	30.5
2,008.20	LASMO	270	-4	0.7	72.5
2.87	Lasmo Units	40½		22.4	
591.40	Monument	84½			44.1
6,449.60	Norsk Hydro	2816½	-234½	2.0	8.9
314.90	Oil Search	103	+5		
83.50	Petroz	42½	+1½		
554.40	Premier	53½	-1½	1.3	10.5
35.00	Premiercrest Rs	58	-2½		37.1
373.40	Ranger	379½	-26½	5.1	6.8
67,278.20	Royal Dtch Fl	3137½	-59	2.7	21.5
21,564.60	Schlumberger	4431½	-440½	1.0	
42,162.60	**Shell**	424	-32	3.7	21.9
181.40	SOCO Intl	367½	-8½		
14,956.50	Total	6203½	-78½	2.6	21.7
67.00	XCL	332½	-20		

OTHER FINANCIAL

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
128.60	Aberdeen Asset	88	-½	5.3	
2,839.00	Amvescap	482	+2	1.3	19.4
23.50	BWD	120		6.5	13.1
2.96	Berry Bch Nbl	45½	-2	8.2	11.3
184.20	Biotec Inv	276½	-7½		
53.50	Brewin Dolphin	231½	+1½	4.6	12.9
588.00	Caledonia	705	+11	3.4	18.8
73.80	Camellia	2950		1.4	12.5
558.60	Cattles	403	+6½	2.7	22.1
76.90	Charles Taylor	263½	+9	2.1	
9.84	Chisilie	41½	-6½	3.0	13.6
644.70	Close Bros	528	-18	2.8	17.7
129.30	EFM	468½	-15	6.7	16.6
38.60	Exco	31½	-2	14.3	12.2
24.30	Fishers Ind	19½	+½	3.4	12.5
242.70	Gerrard	332½	+13½	6.0	14.9
446.60	Hambros	250½	-15½	3.7	24.0
319.60	Henderson	1452½	-5	3.9	21.3
64.70	Hitachi Cred	152½	+1½	3.5	14.0
4.21	Investment Co	145		3.0	
62.80	Ivory Sime	197		5.8	13.2
1,503.40	Jardine Str	144½	+8½	6.0	7.2
17.50	Johnson Fry	115	+6	4.3	11.8
33.00	Leopold Jt	622½	-7½	4.0	27.3
1,359.90	Liberty Intl	473	-19½	4.4	26.8
358.60	Lon Forfaiting	342½	-25½	4.5	17.2
124.00	London Pacific	176½	-6	9.8	5.4
139.00	Lon Scot Bk	108	+1½	3.6	18.9
643.10	Man ED & F	245	+3½	5.8	9.8
1,033.60	M & G	1380	-32½	3.6	22.3
3,098.20	MAM	1693	+11	3.5	26.8
171.80	Paragon	186½	-1	1.7	
771.30	Perpetual	2735	+130	2.8	18.4
2,015.20	Provident	754½	-10	2.9	24.1
113.90	Rathbone Bro	385½	+4	4.0	14.0
27.30	Rea Brothers	55½		2.2	19.6
150.80	Rutland Tst	50	-1½	3.6	11.6
15.70	SEC Group	87		7.3	
37.80	S & U	320	-3	7.2	8.4
2,808.60	**Schroders**	1860	-90	1.4	19.2
756.00	Schroders NV	1680	-69	1.6	17.3
91.50	Secure Tst	610	+5	4.3	13.3
280.30	Singer & Fried	138½	-7	4.4	10.9
7.85	Towry Law	51	-½		
3.76	Tno Hldgs	4½	+½		
19.30	Union	72½	-7½		
119.50	Versailles Grp	47½	-½	1.1	28.6
36.00	Waitrest	400		4.5	16.0

PHARMACEUTICALS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
679.60	Br Biotech	103	+1		
102.30	Cantab Pharm	830	-60		
227.60	Celltech	297½	+7½		
239.40	Chiroscience	223½	-20		
286.40	Cortecs	181	-6½		
50,915.20	**Glaxo Well**	1425	-30	2.9	29.3
109.50	ML Laboratories	79½	-17		
578.50	Medeva	162½	-22½	3.6	30.4
95.70	Peptide Thera	266½	-6½		
114.90	Powderject	194½			
24.40	Proteus Intl	44	-2		
11.00	Ransom (Wm)	70	-3	4.5	14.5
203.80	Scotia	260	-95		
355.20	Shire Pharma	285	+1½		
176.50	ShyePharma	48½	-4½		
33,808.60	**SmithKlineBeecham**	611	-29	1.7	30.4
47.40	Therp Antl Inc	221½	-5		
132.30	Vanguard	420	-5		
37.00	Xenova	160	-15		
19,615.80	**Zeneca**	2067	-10	2.2	27.5

PRINTING & PAPER

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
18.30	AG Holdings	87		9.0	11.3
163.60	API	580	+10	2.6	
20.10	App Holo	76	+3½		
1,277.70	Arjo Wiggins	155	-6½	5.6	10.5
46.30	Bath Press	211½		3.2	8.9
185.10	Bemrose	434½	+2	4.5	12.6
118.10	Blagden	162½		2.0	10.6
1,074.10	Bowater Inc	2618½	-18½		
187.50	Boxmore Intl	261½	+2½	1.5	18.1
176.50	Br Polythene	432½	+1½	5.3	10.3
3.06	Br Thornton	19	+1½		
192.50	Britton Grp	138½		3.1	15.6
1,064.20	Bunzl	235½	+2½	3.2	14.5
43.60	Capital Inds	126½	-6½	5.7	10.6
21.70	Cropper (James)	281½		2.3	9.4
884.40	De La Rue	397½	-14½	7.5	10.4
59.10	Dolphin Pack	252½	-3½	3.7	14.6
24.80	Fairway Group	61½	+23½	8.1	19.0
35.50	Ferguson Intl	90	-40	18.4	6.8
42.00	Fiotec	149½		3.3	10.3
38.10	Inveresk	72½	-2	10.0	7.4
97.80	Jarvis Porter	208½	-1½	4.5	12.2
315.30	Low & Bonar	317½	-9	5.9	9.5
101.50	MY Holdings	75	+½	4.5	10.2
213.70	Macfarlane	166½	-10	3.1	15.2
151.50	Photobition	1037½	+95	0.9	34.3
72.60	Plysu	151	-4½	6.7	11.3
32.10	Porter Chadburn	26½	-1½	3.8	8.5
1,438.10	REXAM	285	-½	6.0	19.1
522.70	St Ives Gp	515	-17½	2.8	15.8
476.50	Sappi	298½	-50	2.9	
2.60	Security & General	3½			
83.50	Shiftaw	92½	+5	3.1	25.1
643.00	Smith David	201½	-½	5.0	12.5
1,763.50	Smurfit (Jeff)	160	-9½	2.8	13.9
3.36	Sonrict	168	-1	2.3	18.4
52.00	Tinsley Robor	139½	-1½	2.7	15.4
19.00	Waco	24		15.6	
282.70	Waddington	267½	+1½	5.0	11.8
184.50	Watmough	268½	-3	4.9	13.8
84.50	Wyndeham	223	-4½	3.0	13.5

PROPERTY

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
63.70	Allied Lon	91	+1	5.5	11.0
128.80	Amdo	163½	-1	2.2	25.8
11.40	Ashway Grp	32½	+1		
83.00	Asterme Hldgs	131½	-3	4.8	14.2
262.50	Benchmark	242½		1.5	37.8
227.00	Billton	258	-1½	5.2	19.3
76.30	Bolby	158½	+3½	6.9	10.5
2.96	Bellion Gp	5			
38.40	Boume End	56½	+1	2.7	69.1
404.70	Bradford	277	+½	3.9	19.3
3,450.50	Br Land	670	-21	1.6	38.1
506.10	Brixton	214	-4	5.3	18.4
425.90	Burford	101	-1½	2.7	34.1
150.30	CLS Hldgs	133	+1	5.3	15.0
194.10	Cap & Regnl	254	-2	1.5	21.6
1,672.70	Cap Shop Ctrs	410	-1½	2.6	32.1
9.33	Cardiff Prop	266½		1.4	37.2
27.00	Carlisle	9½	+½		41.7
35.80	Cathay Intl	17½	-½		58.6
822.00	Chelsfield	344½		1.1	51.7
141.70	Chesterfield	595½	+1	2.8	
21.30	Chesterton Int	25½		4.9	
7.98	City Site Ests	47½			8.9
22.10	Clevedon Farw	187	+1	7.1	13.3
35.40	CNC Props	84½	+6	4.6	8.4
55.20	Compco	190½		2.8	15.8
362.00	Daejan	1607½	+2½	3.0	18.8
8.40	Dares Estates	17	+1		10.5
40.40	Debenham Twsn	92½		3.2	13.8
16.40	Dolomoy Ests	72½		2.7	14.8
37.90	Derrance	202½	+1	2.8	11.7
241.50	Derwent Hldgs	571	+3	1.4	35.5
82.20	Development Sec	383½		1.2	17.5
93.10	Edge Properties	175	+1		18.7
24.60	Estates Agency	410		5.0	28.4
21.20	Estates Gen	75		1.2	9.4
194.90	Evans of Leeds	145	-½	3.0	17.0
31.60	Five Oaks	30½	+½	3.7	10.4
3.22	Fletcher King	37		6.9	12.0
7.51	Folkes Group	66½		3.7	4.8
13.90	Folkes Group nv	63		3.9	4.8
269.50	Frogmore	470½		5.2	14.6
13.50	Golden Land Inv	19	-1		
84.40	Grainger	335		2.8	16.2
910.70	Gt Portland	241½	-12	4.7	26.5
189.20	Grantchester	159		0.8	47.8
233.20	Greycoat	208	+2½	0.9	27.2
389.10	Hambro Cntye	104½	-3½	3.0	6.8
1,349.90	Hammerson	472½	-7	3.0	30.4
38.50	Hampton Trust	32½	-2		
98.20	Helical Bar	568	+1½	2.3	15.3
76.10	Hemingway	45½	+½	1.5	15.4
12.50	High-Point	63½			
2,667.70	HK Land	99½	-12	7.2	10.7
31.70	Jermyn	205	-5	3.4	45.2
7.24	Kendell	0½			
18.30	LSH	98½		2.0	7.2
24.70	Lands Imp	95	+4½	6.2	21.5
5,102.20	**Land Secs**	970	-39	3.5	27.9
24.90	Lon & Assoc	33	-½	3.1	13.4
4.65	Lon & Metro	9½			
264.70	Lon Merch Sec	118½	+5½	5.2	10.8
2,127.40	MEPC	507½	-18	4.2	23.0
56.20	MWB Group	103½	+½	3.0	
57.60	McKay Secs	132½	-1	4.0	21.2
10.50	Marcus Nts	65½		4.3	31.7
82.50	Milner Est	271½	-7	3.5	15.4
190.20	Minerva	198½	+1½	1.0	
38.80	Moorfield Est	27		2.3	
75.70	Mountview	1650		3.2	11.5
155.20	Muckiow (A&J)	159	-½	5.5	18.5
2.04	OEM	33½			1.8
3.60	ORB	54½			
19.50	Olives Prop	37½		2.0	15.1
505.00	Peel	855	+2½	1.5	
453.10	Pillar Propt	278	-3½	2.3	40.4
15.50	Premier Land	12	+½		
174.70	Quintain	200	+20	2.2	33.4
47.90	Regalian	27½		5.4	11.0
46.10	Regis	28½	-3	5.1	12.9
38.50	Rugby Est	157½	+2	1.9	20.8
85.80	St Modwen Prp	71½		4.5	9.1
113.00	Saville Gdn (J)	59½		6.3	22.2
59.70	Savills	111½	-1½	3.9	9.4
126.80	Scot Met	97	-2	3.9	17.5
236.50	Shaftesbury	220	-2	1.3	50.7
1,347.00	Slough Estates	343	-20	3.3	24.3
25.00	Smart (J)	247½		4.9	9.2
33.60	Specty Shops	147½	-3	2.1	
412.20	TBI	93½		2.0	30.6
88.30	Tops Ests	190		1.7	41.0
137.20	Town Centre	105½	-1	4.5	13.3
102.90	Trafford Park	149½		3.3	16.8
9.02	UK Land	98		3.9	13.0
126.00	Warner	247½	+10	6.8	
99.80	Warnford	360		3.8	16.2
223.30	Wates	112½	-1½		
1.81	Whitney Mck	27½	-1		
59.90	Workspace Grp	386½		5.1	14.8

RETAILERS, FOOD

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,375.60	**ASDA Group**	178	+7½	2.2	16.8
293.80	Brake Bros	568	+7½	2.3	19.4
90.60	Budgen	55½	+1	3.2	13.0
1,020.80	Dairy Farm Intl	58½	+2½	6.2	
101.80	Farepak	217½	-2½	2.8	17.3
101.00	Fitzwilton	40	-1	7.1	11.0
287.80	Fyffes	95		2.2	12.0
234.00	Greggs	2017½	+42½	2.1	18.5
230.30	Iceland Group	133½	-1	5.1	10.9
448.90	Kwik Save	288½	-26½	8.7	10.4
1,667.50	Morrison (W)	221½	+½	1.0	19.4
76.70	Park Foods	47½	+2½	8.0	13.5
1.97	Regina Hlth	6½			
3,577.40	**Safeway**	327	-2	5.4	11.7
9,138.70	**Sainsbury J**	482	-27½	3.3	19.6
614.80	Somerfield	203½	+2	6.3	7.7
10,583.80	**Tesco**	483½	-4½	3.8	19.3
166.00	Thorntons	256	+5	2.9	20.5
221.90	Watson & Philip	512½	+48½	4.4	12.4

RETAILERS, GENERAL

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
155.90	Alexon	266½	+9		14.9
202.00	Alders	236½	-3	4.3	
151.40	Allied Carpets	167½	-7½	5.8	13.6
1,536.90	Argos	535	-32½	3.9	16.3
87.10	Ashley (Laura)	36½	-2½	2.1	71.9
59.20	Austin Reed	188½	-2	4.5	12.7
33.20	Beale	325½	-12	3.4	10.9
66.70	Beattie (J)	161½		6.6	12.1
60.10	Bentalls	142½		2.5	5.1
113.10	Betterware	197	+12	4.2	15.3
150.20	Blacks Leis	451	-29½	1.3	17.5
282.30	Body Shop	145½	-4	4.3	15.3
7,843.20	**Boots**	860	-17	3.1	18.9
52.50	Brown & Jackson	32	-3		
605.90	Brown (N)	415	-6½	2.1	22.9
1,929.30	Burton	131½	-11	3.3	17.9
332.80	Carpetright	425	-34	6.3	13.8
473.20	Christies Intl	280		2.2	20.0
47.60	Church	429	+5½	4.7	13.1
56.00	Clinton Cards	97½	-2	3.8	14.0
25.30	C'ty Casuals	132½	+41		
50.10	Country Gdns	190	-1½	0.9	14.0
283.60	Courts Furnish	430	-10	1.1	18.5
537.60	DFS Furniture	514	-6½	3.1	20.7
2,594.60	Dixons Grp	602	+2	2.2	20.3
121.80	Etec Boutique	46	+1½		23.9
4.40	ERA Gp	3½			
7.20	Essex Furn	60½	+9	7.7	12.3
87.80	Etam	133½		1.2	
13.60	Fine Art Dev	170½	+7	7.3	12.9
15.30	Fired Earth	263½		1.1	21.8
105.80	Flying Flw Uts	446½	-3½	1.3	23.0
24.20	Formminster	97½	-9	3.3	41.5
67.30	French Conn	365	-35	1.0	15.2
11.20	Gieves	36	-1½	4.0	
42.70	Goldsmiths Gp	262½	+6	3.5	15.1
146.10	Grampian Hdg	139½	-1	6.2	11.1
7,280.50	**GUS**	725	-26	3.2	18.7
195.40	HBC Furnishing	273½	-4	2.7	42.3
61.10	Hamleys	263½	-38½	4.4	14.6
13.40	Hampden Grp	87½	-1½	3.4	11.0
467.80	Hse of Fraser	202½	-15	3.4	
24.50	Hughes (T)	119	+½	3.5	18.0
583.60	JJB Sports	648½	-13	1.0	31.4
5,632.80	**Kingfisher**	832	-13	3.1	18.2
60.60	Liberty	355		0.9	
34.50	Lindleigh	34½	+1		24.5
660.20	MFI	111	-8	5.6	11.5
16,570.10	**Marks Spencer**	591	-19	2.9	21.2
210.30	Menzies (John)	373½	-2½	4.6	11.1
39.90	Merchant Retail	35½	+1½	12.4	18.9
193.80	Moss Bros	224	-8½	3.1	15.8
2,538.50	**Next**	679	-8½	2.3	20.7
7.59	Oliver (G)	30	+2½		
438.10	Owlbaw Intl	436		3.6	
15.80	Partners	85		0.7	15.7
18.90	Partridge Fine	85½	-4	4.9	15.4
31.70	QS Hldgs	39½			
148.50	Ramans	315		3.5	16.6
82.20	Saxe Group	87½	-½	10.1	6.6
756.00	Sears	39½	-1½	5.4	37.5
468.90	Signet Group	23	-½		0.2
1,082.60	Smith WH	385	-3½	5.1	
591.30	Sotheby	1060	-2		
972.50	Storehouse	230½	-10½	4.5	11.6
53.50	Stylo	90	+2½	6.5	
140.40	T & S Stores	195	-5	5.1	16.9
560.70	Thorn	151	-5	11.3	8.1
65.90	Tie Rack	127	-½	3.3	12.8
48.98	Un	262½	-14	2.1	15.4
5.64	Upton & South	3½			26.2
3,331.40	Vendome	477½	+1½	2.7	17.5
206.00	Wickes	272½	+14½		5.3
180.40	Wyevale	280½	+5	2.9	19.6

SUPPORT SERVICES

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
480.50	AEA Tech	533	+5½	2.1	25.3
411.10	Aggreko	155	-3½	2.6	21.7
123.70	Alpha Airpts	72½	-4½	3.1	7.8
21.80	Alphameric	50	-1½		24.3
97.40	Anite Grp	41	-1½		
334.40	Atkins WS	363½	+3½	2.5	21.1
34.20	BMB Res	156	+2	6.1	8.2
135.50	BPP	500		3.5	19.7
612.80	BTG	887½	+1½	0.2	
18.20	Brooks Service	80	-½	5.6	11.8
295.60	Business Post	568½	-8½	2.6	24.4
956.30	CMG	1482½	+7½	0.5	49.1
514.10	CRT Gp	359	-1	1.5	49.9
33.50	Card Cp	817½	-7½	1.5	8.0
565.50	Capita Group	347½	-10	0.6	64.1
3.56	Chorus	8½	+½	3.0	
345.20	Corp Services	214	-½	3.3	17.4
15.30	Coutts Cnslg	31		6.2	
78.10	DCS Gp	318½	+15	0.7	25.1
506.80	Danka Bs Syst	222½	+3	1.6	9.2
425.30	Davis Service	308½	-3½	4.3	17.8
193.60	Delphi	667½	-22½	1.2	19.4
121.70	Diagonal	657½	+12½	0.2	65.1
35.40	Dooley Jenkins	266½	-3½	2.2	21.8
11.20	EW Facil	61½	-½	4.1	10.1
14.30	El Data Pro	54½	+2	5.2	11.8
288.80	Fl Group	900	-65	0.1	64.1
69.50	Harvey Nash	321	-½	1.6	
3,384.60	**Hays**	602	-13	1.4	32.2
215.50	Hogg Robinson	250	+3	5.1	11.6
378.80	JBA Hldgs	1035	-16½	0.6	51.2
118.50	Johnson Clean	236½	+7½	6.3	9.4
29.40	Kalamazoo	68½	-1	7.8	10.0
73.20	Kewill Syst	567½		2.2	13.6
6.12	Laser-Scan	19	+1		
22.20	Lavendon	380	-½	1.2	28.5
786.10	Logica	1072½	-37½	1.4	34.4
84.90	Lonen	496½	+9	1.9	13.6
112.90	Lynx Hldgs	109½	+6	2.3	
98.50	MDIS	47	-1		
26.40	MMT Compt	810	+51	1.7	27.3
61.40	MR Group	110		4.3	15.0
67.00	Macro 4	340		9.3	10.1
44.50	Manmore Abbey	52½	-2	1.5	15.7
380.40	Micro Focus	2325	+87½		46.5
27.70	Microgen	70	-5½	13.9	5.0
1,979.90	Misys	1772½	+7½	0.9	32.9
157.50	MITIE Gp	241½		1.0	30.5
28.00	Newe Group	51½		3.9	11.7
36.30	Ortest	43		3.8	11.5
112.10	PSD	463½	+39	1.5	21.3
7.56	Pacer Intelec	95	+10	3.8	15.6
313.10	Parity	635	+4	0.9	35.4
18.20	Pegasus	260	-2½	3.6	11.0
17.20	Penna	156		1.8	8.0
102.50	Photo-Me	143	+3½	4.4	17.4
23.70	Proudfoot	37½	+6		
18.20	RCO	170	-2½	11.8	19.8
45.40	RPS Group	218½	-7	2.5	19.3
9.52	Radius	34	-1	6.1	9.5
22.50	Real Time	321	-3½	2.3	11.1
73.10	Rebust	79	-1½	3.0	11.3
59.10	Reed Executive	124½	+2	2.8	7.2
40.10	Reliance Sec	175		4.9	15.3
7,261.90	**Rentokil Ini**	254	-1½	1.3	27.9
70.20	Ricardo Group	152½	+1	5.2	25.0
127.10	Robert Walters	516½	-16	0.7	33.2
45.60	Rolls & Rolan	342½		2.0	57.1
98.80	Royalblue	291	+29½	0.6	55.6
885.30	Sage Gp	819	+8	0.4	34.9
266.40	Salvesen (C)	100½	+1	7.4	13.9
31.00	Sanderson	67½	+1	9.1	8.4
999.20	Select App	598	-12	0.1	25.6
1,690.50	Serco Gp	1470	+17½	0.6	43.6
521.70	Spring	858	+4	0.8	38.2
279.30	Shanks & McEwan	151½	-7½	3.3	19.1
40.00	Sherwood Intl	465	+37	1.3	21.7
86.40	Simon Grp	41½	-2½		
40.70	Sketchley	43			
132.10	Skillsgroup	162½	+4	2.8	12.7
22.90	Sol-Plus	125		11.3	11.1
9.46	Superscape VR	107½	+17½		
38.00	Toss	88½	+13½	3.0	14.4
5,634.80	Tyco Intl	2300		0.3	
29.85	WSP Group	97½	+4	3.2	15.5
54.90	Warner Howard	225	-5	6.0	10.2
680.10	Waste Mgt Intl	178	-5		
153.30	Waste Recycl	329	+27½	0.8	16.5
26.60	Whitehead Mann	171½		2.4	12.9
13.60	White Young Grn	70½		6.2	10.9
2,592.80	**Williams**	332	-8	5.3	14.7

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
30,483.00	**BT**	476	-7	5.1	15.1
12,016.70	**Cable Wireless**	528½	-4½	2.5	22.1
3,983.80	Cable&Wire Comm	267½	-17		
668.20	Colt Telecom	607½	-56		
78.80	Euro Telecom	252½		1.3	21.2
303.00	General Cable	83	-13½		
3,117.80	Orange	260½	-4		
1,695.00	Securicor	282½	-2½	0.8	30.2
640.00	TeleWest	69	-6		
13,525.60	**Vodafone**	440	+10	1.5	36.2

TEXTILES & APPAREL

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
2.09	Albion	55	-1	4.1	52.9
46.88	Alexandra Wk	138½	+15	5.3	12.8
69.30	Allied Text	126	-2½	7.9	6.9
245.40	Baird (Wm)	211	-5	5.7	16.5
24.30	Bridport-Gundry	120½		4.7	13.6
12.40	Br Mohair	93½		7.4	35.6
37.50	Claremont Grf	68½		13.3	
657.60	Coats Viyella	93½	-1½	10.8	13.6
368.70	Courtaulds Text	355½	-8	5.4	32.3
13.40	Dawson	67	-½	6.4	12.3
320.30	Dewhirst (I)	243	-6	2.4	15.8
2.80	Dinkie Heel	22½	+½	8.9	8.4
4.15	Drummond	19½	-8	13.2	5.0
4.04	Fawpet	34½	-½	8.1	6.9
26.80	FII	115		2.2	25.2
1.06	Foster (John)	8½			
5.30	French	40	-12½	12.0	9.1
17.20	Haggas	78½	-3	7.2	11.3
28.80	Hartstone	8½	+½	7.0	22.9
81.20	Hicking Pntcst	56	-9	3.8	14.4
3.36	Hollas	7½			
0.97	Honeysuckle	11½			
24.70	Horace Small	72			7.7
8.58	Jacques Vert	21½			
5.48	Jerome (S)	40	-5	9.9	9.8
54.10	Jones Stroud	312½	-46	3.6	13.0
28.97	Lambert	283½		4.9	13.6
41.10	Lamont	136½	-2½	11.7	11.3
39.70	Leeds	108½	-4	8.1	
4.38	Leslie Wise Gp	12½	-½	22.5	9.6
4.97	Lyles (S)	71		4.0	11.8
4.35	PBX	3½			6.0
17.40	Parkland	124	-8½	6.7	5.4
394.00	Pentland	108½	+7½	4.1	16.3
12.00	Pittards	55	-1	8.0	3.7
82.00	Readicut	39½	-1½	8.2	11.6
7.14	Richards	30½	-3	8.5	
3.74	SEET	23½	+1		
35.40	Sherwood Gp	31½	+1	14.3	31.3
5.85	Shiloh	97½	-11	5.1	6.8
28.30	Sirdar	52	+½	13.2	7.5
37.20	Stirling Gp	42½	+3	7.0	9.8
3.64	UK Safety	9			11.0
9.82	Ulster (Frank)	134½	-6½	10.2	6.8
4.97	Wassall	64½		9.7	5.6
15.70	Yorklyde	148		7.1	16.5

TRANSPORT

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
18.90	Air London	210		3.9	12.9
3,300.00	All Nippon Air	228½	-21½	0.6	
77.90	Arriva	344	-10	4.6	10.0
1,158.20	Assoc Br Ports	301	-½	3.4	15.4
1,010.30	Avis Europe	173½	+1	2.4	17.9
5,077.20	**BAA**	494	-11	3.3	14.8
5,755.40	**Br Airways**	555	-14	3.5	21.2
21.40	Clarkson (H)	105½		4.7	9.8
56.80	Clydeport Ops	137½	-1	4.6	8.0
53.20	Dart	338½	+19	2.5	16.2
275.90	Eurotunnel Uts	60	+1		
674.40	FirstBus	213½	-5	3.5	15.1
62.30	Fisher (James)	129		2.9	9.3
294.80	Forth Ports	615		2.7	15.6
362.90	Go-Ahead	536½	-2	1.9	16.8
285.80	Goode Durrant	490		2.6	16.1
49.50	Helphire Gp	303½	+27	0.3	37.3
190.20	Irish Cont	740		0.7	16.5
69.40	Jacobs	67½	-13	3.7	30.0
64.70	Lon O'Seas Frts	88½			
431.00	Mersey Docks	480	+30	3.5	16.9
991.80	NFC	142	-1½	5.2	14.4
723.90	Rail Express	651	+40½	2.3	14.5
931.80	Ocean Group	593½	+4	3.3	19.6
41.50	Ocean Wilson	104½	-1	4.5	18.8
4,305.80	**P & O Dfd**	674	-3	5.7	18.3
75.50	P & O 5.5%	113½	+2½	6.1	
4,747.70	**Railtrack**	942	-25	3.0	17.9
10.40	Seacon	38		4.0	25.4
126.60	Servisair	317	-5½	2.1	28.4
1,942.40	Stagecoach	809	+1	1.6	18.3
269.50	Tibbett & Britn	565		3.6	15.7
280.20	TDG	205	-2½	5.8	14.6
101.30	Ugland	77½	-1½	3.5	10.4
24.10	Utd Carriers	71	-2½	8.2	11.0

WATER

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
2,260.30	Anglian	836	+1	5.4	11.4
142.00	East Surrey	287½		4.9	11.6
1,389.40	Hyder	961½		5.9	8.1
248.40	Hyder Cm Pf	128	+1½	8.5	
113.30	Mid Kent Hldgs	662½	+½	5.9	9.9
3,322.20	**Severn Trent**	980	-27½	4.8	10.7
193.40	South Staffs	1277½		3.6	13.5
1,212.90	South West	924	-11	5.2	11.7
3,376.30	**Thames**	886½	-31½	6.1	9.8
4,115.70	**Utd Utilities**	765	-19	6.3	12.4
1,062.00	Wessex	500	-1½	4.8	9.5
1,762.30	Yorkshire	465	-16	5.3	9.1

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

Mkt cap (£million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
16.90	Abacus Recruit	260	+50	0.7	30.1
30.70	Gale Inns	207	-½	1.8	15.7
124.70	Dawson Hldgs	220		2.7	21.2
100.00	Freepages	32½	+3		
39.70	Megalomedia	64½	-½	0.4	30.6
20.80	Memory Corp	28½	+4½		
95.90	Prism Rail	379	-11	1.6	
253.70	Ramco Epy	840	-22½	0.1	
180.40	Southern Wells	742½	+8½	3.4	19.7
16.70	Southern Vectis	84½		3.1	17.6
89.20	Trocadero	17½			

Source: FT Information

Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited; … No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
500	Treas 4¾% 1998	116[illegible]		3.99	6.86
2,550	Exch 9¾% 1998	100[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.74	6.50
7,150	Treas 7¼% 1998	100[illegible]		7.25	7.20
[illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	102[illegible]	-[illegible]	13.64	6.89
[illegible]	Treas 15½% 1998	106[illegible]	-[illegible]	14.62	6.99
[illegible]	Exch 12% 1998	104[illegible]	-[illegible]	11.52	7.03
[illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	102[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.27	6.94
[illegible]	Exch 12¼% 1999	106[illegible]		11.53	6.89
[illegible]	Treas 10½% 1999	104[illegible]	-[illegible]	10.02	6.80
8,050	Treas 6% 1999	98[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.07	6.74
[illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	106[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.67	6.79
[illegible]	Conv 9% 2000	104[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.61	6.74
[illegible]	Treas 8% 2000	103[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.72	6.61
[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2000	103[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.22	6.69
[illegible]	Treas 13% 2000	114[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.37	6.72
4,406	Treas 10% 2001	109[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.15	6.67
12,750	Treas 7% 2001	101[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.90	6.56

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
9,000	Treas 7% 2002	102[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.86	6.45
6,527	Treas 9¾% 2002	112[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.65	6.52
4,620	Treas 8% 2003	107[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.45	6.41
2,400	Treas 10% 2003	116[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.57	6.44
1,620	Treas 11½% 2001-04	113[illegible]	-[illegible]	10.11	6.66
542	Fund 3½% 1999-04	90[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.86	5.21
3,472	Conv 9½% 2004	117[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.11	6.35
5,550	Treas 6¾% 2004	102[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.60	6.33
7,373	Treas 8½% 2005	113[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.48	6.28
4,842	Conv 9½% 2005	118[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.04	6.29
2,200	Treas 12½% 2003-05	129[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.67	6.45
11,700	Treas 7½% 2006	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.92	6.25
4,000	Treas 7¾% 2006	109[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.07	6.29
2,000	Treas 8% 2002-06	105[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.56	6.55
4,150	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	122[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.61	6.49
7,397	Treas 8½% 2007	115[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.34	6.27
9,000	Treas 7¼% 2007	107[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.73	6.19
5,621	Treas 9% 2008	122[illegible]	+1	7.37	6.16
3,450	Treas 8% 2009	114[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.97	6.21

LONGS (over 15 years)

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
4,750	Treas 6¼% 2010	100[illegible]	+1[illegible]	6.24	6.23
5,273	Conv 9% 2011	124[illegible]	+1[illegible]	7.20	6.24
5,360	Treas 9% 2012	126[illegible]	-1[illegible]	7.14	6.25
1,000	Treas 5½% 2008-12	93[illegible]	+[illegible]	5.86	6.13
800	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	113[illegible]	+1[illegible]	6.83	6.31
6,100	Treas 8% 2013	117[illegible]	+1[illegible]	6.82	6.25
13,787	Treas 8% 2015	119[illegible]	+1[illegible]	6.70	6.20
7,550	Treas 8¾% 2017	128[illegible]	+1[illegible]	6.82	6.27
16,500	Tr 8% 2021	122[illegible]	+1[illegible]	6.53	6.17

UNDATED

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
1,909	War Ln 3½%	56	+[illegible]	6.25	..
475	Treas 2½%	39	+[illegible]	6.41	
359	Consols 4%	61[illegible]	+1[illegible]	6.51	..

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	5%	3%
2,150	Treas IL 2½% 2001	194[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.00	3.31
2,400	Treas IL 2½% 2003	192[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.98	3.20
1,150	Treas IL 4⅝% 2004	124[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.95	3.15
2,500	Treas IL 2% 2006	206[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.98	3.13
2,625	Treas IL 2½% 2009	187[illegible]	-[illegible]	3.03	3.14
3,100	Treas IL 2½% 2011	198[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.98	3.07
3,750	Treas IL 2½% 2013	163[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.98	3.06
3,825	Treas IL 2½% 2016	176[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.98	3.06
3,700	Treas IL 2½% 2020	171[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.09	3.07
3,050	Treas IL 2½% 2024	144[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.09	3.05
1,300	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	141[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.98	3.04

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Recruitment surge forecast as firms show confidence

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

INDUSTRY will see an increase in staff recruitment next year with some sectors taking their employment to levels not seen for nine years. The expectations for strong recruitment in a jobs study are backed by upbeat forecasts from Britain's managers about their firms' prospects.

Electronics, telecommunications and other high-tech businesses will be at the forefront of the move for more staff although there are also encouraging signs from building and engineering, according to the latest Manpower survey.

Of more than 2,200 employers questioned by the recruitment agency for the survey, 22 per cent said they planned to increase job levels in the first three months of 1998, while 12 per cent intended to cut staff. The balance of 10 per cent is a 4-percentage point rise on the same period last year. Manufacturing is ahead of other industries for bullish forecasts, especially businesses in electronics, automotive production and general engineering. In these areas 28 per cent of employers expect to recruit extra staff, while 9 per cent predict cuts.

Lillian Bennett, chairman of Manpower, said: "Almost without exception our respondents take a positive view of the immediate future whilst watching the medium/long-term carefully. They are, however, concerned about skill shortages, and are reviewing their training plans and seeking to achieve greater productivity and flexibility through different approaches to work fulfilment."

Skills problems were also highlighted by the Institute of Management in an otherwise largely hopeful new year forecast.

A total of 83 per cent of managers said they feared skills shortages in 1998. Sustained economic growth next year was expected by 60 per cent of managers although 76 per cent of the survey voiced fears over rising inflation. Higher interest rates are expected by 94 per cent of executives. Their views were tested in a "quick response" survey of 267 members.

Roger Young, director-general of the institute, said that executives "are confident about the economic and business prospects for 1998. But it is a confidence tinged with caution and circumspection. Be vigilant is the byword for 1998".

☐ Accountants wanting to live in the balmy South West of England and work for a medium-sized manufacturer should have no trouble, judging from the latest survey from Reed Accountancy Personnel, the employment agency. It found that three quarters of organisations polled were experiencing shortages of suitably skilled applicants for accounting jobs. This rises to about nine out of ten for manufacturers, for companies employing between 1,000 and 5,500 and for organisations in the South West.

Lazards tops table of record takeovers

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

LAZARDS topped the table for advising on takeovers and mergers involving UK companies last year, according to *Acquisitions Monthly*, the specialist magazine.

The merchant bank advised on takeovers worth nearly £73 billion from a total record-breaking £150 billion. This year's total is more than twice the previous record, which was set in 1995, when takeovers reached £70 billion.

SBC Warburg, Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs were second, third and fourth respectively in the table, advising on deals worth £46 billion, £44 billion and £32 billion. BZW, NatWest Markets, and Hambros, three UK-based corporate finance houses that were sold or are up for sale, were absent from the top ten list.

The biggest deals during the year included Guinness's merger with Grand Metropolitan, worth £23 billion, the BAT insurance merger with Zurich Insurance, worth £22 billion, and Reed Elsevier's merger with Wolters Kluwer. Merrill Lynch's acquisition of Mercury Asset Management cost £3.1 billion and Prudential's takeover of Scottish Amicable £2.9 billion.



John Monks believes public services should share in the growth of national wealth

TUC warns Government over welfare reforms

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MONKS, General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress, has fired a warning shot at the Government amid controversy over its reforms to the welfare system.

In an end-of-year message Mr Monks said his biggest worry was over "suggestions that the Government has adopted the strategic aim of reducing the proportion of national wealth that goes into public services and the public sector".

He said: "We already have a smaller public sector than other comparable countries. With an ageing population and continuing insecurity in the workplace it would be quite wrong to stop public services sharing in the growth of national wealth in the years ahead. And, of course, with such a goal, it will not be possible to convince voters that welfare reform is anything other than a money-saving device rather than something that puts the needs of the vulnerable at the heart of public policy."

Mr Monks' comments come as protests grow against threats to disability allowances and after a Labour rebellion over lone-parent benefits.

The head of the trade union movement also said that government plans for union recognition should not be diluted in the face of pressure from business. A White Paper on fairness at work is due out early in the new year.

Mr Monks said it was clear "that some employers are lobbying hard to make the proposals so weak that they will be almost worse than useless. They want an absurd system for recognition ballots which counts every abstention as a vote against, even though no one — not the CBI, not the IoD, not the Labour Party — backed the previous Government's similar proposal to bring in this system for strike ballots."

Russians take on Shell and BP in oil sale

BY CARL MORTISHED

THE battle for control of Rosneft, the Russian oil company to be privatised next year, intensified yesterday after news that Sibneft, Russia's seventh-largest producer, has secured a place in the bidding stakes alongside consortiums including BP and Shell.

Sibneft has won a legal dispute with Uneximbank, the Russian financial group that challenged the sale by the Government last May of 51 per cent of Sibneft to the Financial Oil Corporation, a company controlled by Sibneft's management. Sibneft also announced yesterday that it has settled an outstanding tax bill with the Russian Government, thus avoiding seizure of one of the company's principal assets, the Omsk oil refinery.

In the turmoil of the Russian energy industry, infighting between oil companies has acquired a political dimension. Uneximbank controls Sidanco, a rival oil company in which BP last month acquired a 10 per cent stake. BP and Sidanco have established a joint venture which intends to make a bid for Rosneft. Sibneft said yesterday that Uneximbank's legal actions were "a spoiling tactic" motivated by the forthcoming sale of Rosneft.

In retaliation against Uneximbank, Sibneft said that Sidanco's refinery at Angarsk was under threat because Sidanco had failed to meet the taxation deadline. The Russian Government is playing hardball with the oil companies in a desperate attempt to secure revenue to pay wage arrears.

The Moscow court decision and settlement of the tax dispute makes Sibneft a more attractive vehicle for foreign investment. The company has some 8 billion barrels in reserves and the Omsk refinery is Russia's largest and most sophisticated.

Sibneft recently issued $150 million (£88 million) in bonds to Western investors and is now considering an alliance with a Western oil company to add weight to its bid for Rosneft. In addition to Sidanco and Sibneft, Rosneft is being courted by Gazprom, the gas company which recently formed an oil production alliance with Shell.

Factory exports edge up

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

EXPORTS from the heartland of Britain's manufacturing industry improved slightly in the last quarter of the year although the news came with a warning that widespread job losses among exporters are unlikely to be averted.

The number of exporters reporting higher sales to the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce increased by seven points to 17 per cent. Those recording a decrease rose by two points to 29 per cent. Orders also improved, with 11 per cent — up from 7 per cent in the previous quarter — reporting an increase.

Richard Ireland, president of the chamber, said: "Continuing high interest and exchange rates are still having a very adverse effect on our exporting members. Forecasts are for widespread job losses among exporters."

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.64	2.46
Austria Sch	21.81	20.15
Belgium Fr	64.23	59.27
Canada $	2.523	2.335
Cyprus Cyp£	0.912	0.840
Denmark Kr	11.86	10.97
Finland Mkk	9.51	8.76
France Fr	10.37	9.59
Germany Dm	3.12	2.88
Greece Dr	493	454
Hong Kong $	13.76	12.56
Iceland	131	111
Ireland Pt	1.21	1.12
Israel Shk	6.29	5.64
Italy Lira	3081	2844
Japan Yen	231.23	213.70
Malta	0.684	0.625
Netherlds Gld	3.525	3.230
New Zealand $	3.01	2.77
Norway Kr	12.78	11.82
Portugal Esc	315.03	293.00
S Africa Rd	8.81	7.85
Spain Pta	261.79	243.00
Sweden Kr	13.77	12.67
Switzerland Fr	2.55	2.33
Turkey Lira	345832	325954
USA $	1.775	1.632

Rates for small denomination bank notes only supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Other rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates shown are as at close of trading on Friday.

Burger King beefs up UK presence

BY JON ASHWORTH

HAMBURGER wars are threatening to break out in the UK in the new year. Burger King, longstanding rival to McDonald's, is going on the offensive with a raft of new store openings, creating about 1,500 jobs.

The group, owned by Diageo, has 455 restaurants in the UK — compared with more than 780 for McDonald's — and expects to break the 500-mark this year. Paul Symonds, newly appointed managing director of Burger King UK, is soon to unveil a multimillion-pound advertising campaign, playing on its supposedly better-tasting flame-broiled burgers and new-formula fries. Mr Symonds said: "We want to become the best hamburger chain in Britain."

The move follows developments in America, where Burger King is attacking McDonald's superior market share. The group is spending $70 million (£42 million) promoting its new-formula fries, which are said to be crispier and tastier and stay hotter for longer.

Finding good quality franchisees is the main factor dictating the rate of growth. Most of Burger King's UK outlets are franchises. Mr Symonds hopes to expand the UK network to between 700 and 900 outlets in the next few years. He said: "The growth potential is absolutely enormous. We are committed to the franchise route and are growing with a variety of partners, from large corporate partners to smaller plcs, and a whole myriad of small, independent business people."

The company recently opened a test site with Shell UK, in the expectation of rolling-out further sites in the coming months. Granada, Compass and Texaco are among other leading UK companies to have linked with Burger King. The group opened 61 new outlets in 1997 and plans to open a further 60 in the coming year. About one million Burger King Whoppers are served in the UK each week.

Burger King is one of four operating divisions of Diageo, which was created through the merger of Grand Metropolitan and Guinness. The others are Pillsbury Foods, based in Minneapolis; Guinness, based in London and Dublin; and Distillers and IDV, based in London and Edinburgh. Drinks brands include Johnnie Walker, Bell's and J&B whisky, Gordon's gin and Smirnoff vodka.

Diageo is the world's sixth-largest food and drinks group. Burger King worldwide lifted operating profits 8 per cent to £170 million in 1997.



Paul Symonds will launch a new campaign

AT the seasonal peak for share tips, not all the Sunday newspapers showed their usual enthusiasm, the tipsters reckoning that markets could well be unsettled as the year comes to a close with all eyes still on Asia.

The Sunday Times: Buy Medisys, FI Group, Belhaven Brewery, United News & Media, BICC.

The Express on Sunday: Buy National Westminster, Vodafone, Southern Electric, David Brown.

The Sunday Telegraph: Watch Billiton, Anglo Pacific Resources, Meggitt, Abacus Recruitment, Laporte, Northern Leisure, Hogg Robinson.

The Observer: Buy Langdon Foods, Ferrum Holdings, Ladbroke, Hogg Robinson, Capital Corporation, Intermediate Capital, International Energy Group.

CHANGE ON WEEK

US dollar
1.6692 (+0.0002)
German mark
2.9595 (+0.0077)
Exchange index
104.8 (+0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

FT 30 share
3225.2 (-3.5)
FTSE 100
5013.9 (-6.3)
New York Dow Jones
7660.13 (-96.16)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
14924.98 (-389.91)

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Jon Ashworth on 1997: mega-bids, boardroom exits and naming and shaming

Thrills and spills of a vintage City year



Eddie George plays ringmaster to the headline-grabbers of 1997, from bottom left clockwise, Gordon Brown, whose ministry announced the Isa; in-the-money Carol Galley; a leather-clad Ann Iverson; Howard Davies; Sir Iain Vallance; Liam Strong, the WorldCom-bound former Sears chief; Richard Branson; BA's Bob Ayling; the Pru's Sir Peter Davis; and Martin Taylor, the Barclays chief who cut up BZW

Not since the mid-Eighties has there been a year like it. Mega-bids swept the City, while the corporate merry-go-round whirled on, flinging out wads of cash and clumps of mud.

The Labour Government took to its task with zeal, initiating the most sweeping changes seen in the City for a decade. Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, handed the Bank of England independence to set interest rates, and then assigned Howard Davies, its Deputy Governor, to the top job at the Financial Services Authority, the new supreme financial regulator.

The FSA will pull together all the self-regulatory organisations, from the Securities and Investments Board downwards. Davies was swift to flex his muscles, wielding the cane against the luckless Prudential Corporation.

Helen Liddell, the Economic Secretary to the Treasury, spent much of the year "naming and shaming" firms implicated in pensions mis-selling, of which the Pru is one. None of this did much for the reputation of Sir Peter Davis, the Pru's chief executive, who could only insist that things were improving.

Sir Peter was one of a number of senior businessmen to be drafted in by the Labour administration, taking charge of its Welfare to Work scheme. Alan Sugar, the Amstrad chairman, was asked to lecture young people on business, and Lord Hollick became a special adviser to Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade.

Lord Simon of Highbury, the former Sir David Simon, was enticed from his highly paid job as chairman of BP to become the minister responsible for trade and competitiveness in Europe. Political furore over BP shares held in a "blind trust" and later sold caused a stir during the summer.

Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, relished his new-found independence, presiding over successive interest rate rises. The monthly meetings of the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee attracted a nervous following.

It was a landmark year for British Airways, which ended 1997 no closer to cementing its global alliance with American Airlines. Bob Ayling, the BA chief executive, ran into open confrontation with the unions over his cost-cutting plans, sparking a showdown with cabin crew that disrupted flights for weeks and cost the carrier £125 million.

The decision to ditch BA's red, white and blue livery in favour of dubious ethnic designs was branded a monumental folly. Baroness Thatcher registered her disapproval by wrapping a handkerchief around the tail of a model BA 747. BA ended the year by announcing plans for a low-cost European carrier, flying from Stansted in Essex.

BA's old adversary, Richard Branson, endured something of a rollercoaster year, taking his Virgin Group into bold new territory, and suffering some well-publicised setbacks. Winning the franchise to run West Coast and CrossCountry rail services exposed Branson to the perils of late-running and overcrowded trains. Virgin Rail insisted that it will get there in the end, like British Rail. Branson's round-the-world balloon escapade became a non-starter when the balloon blew away.

The Virgin chief is due in the High Court on January 12 at the opening of the libel case involving GTech, the American lottery operator. Guy Snowden, chairman of GTech, denies seeking to bribe Branson to stay out of the bidding for the National Lottery licence.

The handover of Hong Kong to China at midnight on June 30 provided much pomp and ceremony. There was little pomp and no ceremony in the weeks that followed, as Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and South Korea were hit in succession by collapsing currencies and mounting economic strife.

The collapse of the Malaysian ringgit invoked a scathing attack from Mahathir Mohamad, the Malaysian Prime Minister, who blamed his problems on "immoral" foreign speculators, chiefly George Soros. Soros hit back, describing Mahathir as "a menace to his country".

Economic turmoil spread to South Korea, which was granted a $57 billion (£34 billion) bailout by the International Monetary Fund. Japan suffered a deepening financial crisis. The ramifications are being felt worldwide, with once-affluent Thais and Japanese spending less on luxury goods. Matters have not been helped by the strength of sterling, which is pricing British exporters out of the market.

The year was marked by a conspicuous absence of headline-grabbing frauds — raising fears that a new wave of misdemeanours is imminent. The action, such as it was, came in the courts, with the best year yet for the Serious Fraud Office (SFO), under its new director, Rosalind Wright. It won convictions in all its fraud trials.

Abbas Gokal, who siphoned $1.2 billion (£720 million) from the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI), was jailed for 14 years — one of the steepest sentences meted out by a British court in this field, matching the 14 years Clarence Hatry was sentenced to for fraud in 1930.

Robert Feld, former managing director of Resort Hotels, was sentenced to eight years in prison in April for misleading investors in connection with a £20 million rights issue. The judge branded him a man of "appalling dishonesty". Ted Ball, of Landhurst Leasing, one-time backer of the Brabham Formula One racing team, was sentenced to three years for taking kickbacks.

The one disaster for the SFO came in March, when the Court of Appeal overturned the case against Elizabeth Forsyth, one-time aide to Asil Nadir. Forsyth, who served ten months in prison for handling stolen funds, accused the SFO of seeking to ruin her life.

Some of the old SFO style afflicted the Department of Trade and Industry, which made a spectacular hash of trying to bring Roger Levitt back from New York to face charges that he lied to DTI inspectors. Levitt, now working as a boxing promoter in the Big Apple, was accused of breaking a director's ban imposed after the collapse of his financial services company, The Levitt Group.

The DTI succeeded in having Levitt incarcerated in a New York jail pending his extradition — only to discover that "lying to inspectors" is not an extraditable offence. Much embarrassment followed as a furious Levitt said that he would be suing the DTI for millions in damages. Beats selling life assurance.

It was a year of spectacular boardroom exits. Ann Iverson, who once posed for *Vogue* wearing a nifty leather number, bit the bullet at Laura Ashley. Three profit warnings in six months and a collapsing share price did little for her prospects. Liam Strong resigned as chief executive of Sears after five embattled years, only to land a plum job with WorldCom, the American telecoms company.

Bill Harrison quit as chief executive of BZW, shortly before the firm's equity and corporate finance arms went up for sale. The mêlée that ensued did little for the wunderkind reputation of Martin Taylor, the Barclays chief executive. BZW in the UK and continental Europe was sold to Credit Suisse First Boston for less than book value. ABN Amro bought the bits in Australia and New Zealand.

The year's award for most unusual book promotion goes to Lord Moyne, the author Jonathan Guinness, whose spectacular run of bad publicity over his Swedish foray coincided with the launch of his book on the Guinness Affair. Lord Moyne claims to have been duped in his dealings with Trustor, a Swedish investment company. Another weighty tome, the report of the DTI inspectors into Guinness's bid for Distillers, was finally published — 11 years after the event. It met with a universal yawn.

It was another astonishing year for Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal, the billionaire Saudi investor. His name is now routinely put forward when anything vaguely glamorous comes on the market, be it Rolls-Royce Motor Cars (put up for sale in November) or Christie's, the fine art auctioneer.

The prince paid £104 million for the Hotel George V in Paris, and then followed through with investments in Donna Karan, Cordiant, Daewoo, Moevenpick, Planet Hollywood, Motorola and Netscape Communications. He recently took a small stake in The News Corporation, parent company of News International, owner of *The Times*. The one that got away was Princess Hotels, owned by Lonrho. Months of negotiations led nowhere.

A steady stream of building societies converted into banks, releasing £30 billion in windfall payments into the UK economy. Halifax, Woolwich, Northern Rock and Alliance & Leicester all succumbed. The Nationwide made a lone stand against carpetbaggers.

This year will be remembered for the scope and audacity of its corporate marriages. As with Big Bang in 1986, old names bowed out and newcomers took the stage.

The unlikeliest winner of the year was BT, led by Sir Iain Vallance and Sir Peter Bonfield, which lost to WorldCom in the three-way tussle for MCI, but was well rewarded in the process. BT earned a tidy $2.25 billion (£1.35 billion) profit on its stake in MCI, for which WorldCom ended up paying $37 billion (£22 billion).

In February Morgan Stanley announced that it was to merge with Dean Witter, Discover to create America's biggest securities and investment banking firm. The enlarged entity had a market value of $24 billion (£14.4 billion). In September, Travelers Group, owner of Smith Barney, paid $9 billion (£5.4 billion) for Salomon Inc, parent of Salomon Brothers. Salomon Smith Barney continues to be run in Europe by Peter Middleton, the one-time motorcycling monk.

Guinness and Grand Metropolitan clinched their £24 billion merger, shedding their names in favour of the faintly ridiculous Diageo. Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS) announced a £35 billion merger with Swiss Bank Corporation (SBC), erasing a fresh batch of City names. Up to 3,000 jobs are expected to go at SBC Warburg Dillon Read and UBS, which incorporates the old Phillips & Drew.

Those to keep their jobs — at least for now — include Tony Dye, chief investment officer of PDFM, formerly Phillips & Drew Fund Management, who famously switched into cash in 1995 and has been praying for a stock market crash ever since.

The FTSE 100 index of leading shares ignored his prayers, starting the year at 4,057.4 and breaking through the 5,000 barrier on August 6. It hit an all-time high of 5,367.3 on October 2. Dye thought his moment had come in late October, when sharp overnight falls in Hong Kong sparked panic in London and New York. The FTSE 100 tumbled 222 points at one stage, while the Dow Jones industrial average lost nearly 230 points.

Things were not helped by the Stock Exchange's new electronic trading system, Sets. Waves of computer-driven buy and sell orders had City screens flashing blue and red in bewilderment.

Asian blues caught up with Yamaichi Securities, Japan's fourth-largest stockbroking firm, which fell victim to a deepening liquidity crisis. The bank's closure was the biggest financial collapse in Japan since the Second World War. Hambros sold its merchant banking operations to Société Générale, ending 158 years of banking tradition. NatWest Markets was sold to Bankers Trust.

Accountants tried to join in the fun. Price Waterhouse bashfully announced its engagement with Coopers & Lybrand. Wedding bells rang for KPMG and Ernst & Young. Andersen Consulting set about divorcing Arthur Andersen. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu sat defiantly in the corner. Whether the marriages are consummated rests with the regulators in Washington, Brussels and Tokyo, who have yet to determine whether competition will suffer.

And the deal in November that took everyone by surprise? Merrill Lynch's £3.1 billion swoop on Mercury Asset Management, which netted £10 million for Carol Galley, much-feared in boardrooms for her power to call the shots in takeover battles. Not bad for someone who started at SG Warburg as a humble librarian.

Banks lose £2bn over five years to loan fraudsters

BY JON ASHWORTH

HIGH STREET banks are losing several hundred million pounds a year to fraudulent loans and face deepening liabilities unless action is taken, it has been claimed.

Between 1991 and 1996, the UK's six biggest banks made provisions of £23 billion to cover bad debts, of which 10 per cent or more is thought to be because of commercial lending fraud. This means that the larger banks have, on a conservative estimate, lost £2 billion to loan fraud over five years. Despite the scale of the losses, little remedial action has been taken.

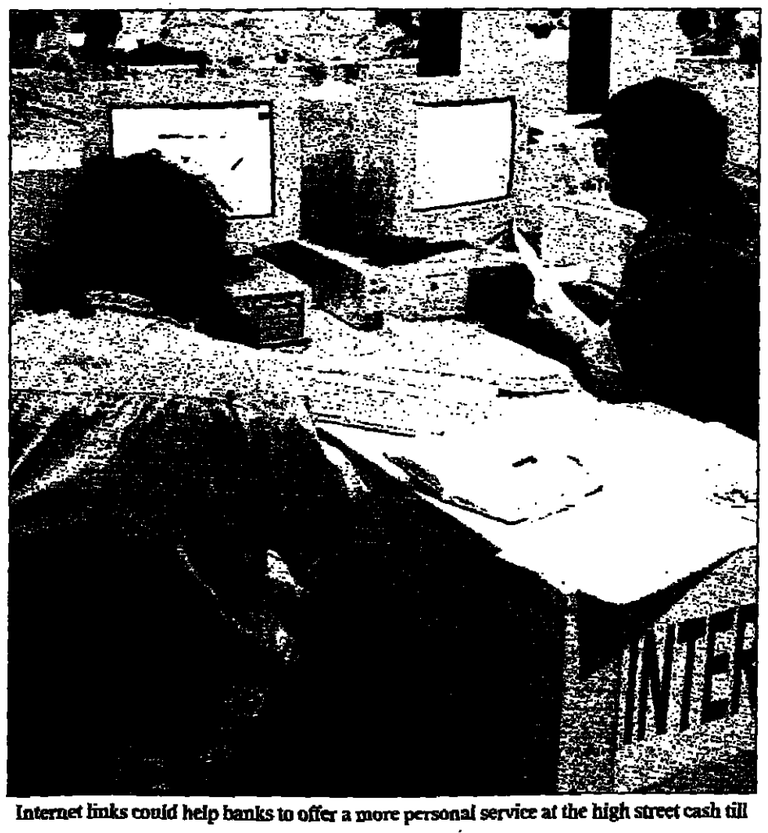
High street banks have thrown huge resources into fighting credit card and cheque card fraud, which has plunged from a peak of £166 million in 1991 to £97 million in 1996, according to official figures. Simon Bevan, head of the fraud services unit at Arthur Andersen, the accountancy firm, said the leading banks need to apply the same vigour in tackling commercial fraud.

Mr Bevan said: "The banks are making the same mistake they made in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Margins are decreasing and there is pressure to increase the size of the loan book. We have recently seen the consequence of this in the Far East, where, in conjunction with the above, commercial loans were secured on properties where prices had been rising and then collapsed."

Barclays made provisions against bad debts of £7.4 billion between 1991 and 1996, according to the British Bankers Association. NatWest made provisions of £6.8 billion, while Midland set aside £2.5 billion. The banks do not say what proportion of the bad debt write-offs are because of loan fraud, but Andersen believes 20 per cent — or £4.6 billion — is a reasonable figure. Even a more conservative 10 per cent would yield losses running to more than £2 billion over five years.

Various steps are open to bankers to reduce loan fraud. These include using professional advisers to independently vet lending decisions, and visiting any property pledged as collateral against loans, particularly those overseas. Mr Bevan said: "I believe that another crop of loan disasters is on the horizon."

Arthur Andersen is increasing recruitment in the next 12 months with a view to deploying increased resources in the fight against fraud.



Internet links could help banks to offer a more personal service at the high street cash till

NatWest to link cash tills to Net

BY RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

QUEUES at the cash machine are likely to become much longer if one of the country's biggest banks succeeds in linking its network of automatic teller machines to the Internet.

NatWest is looking at how it can bring the benefits of the information superhighway to the high street. It wants to deploy the new technology in virtually all its 3,106 ATMs across the country.

NatWest is convinced that by putting its cash dispensers into cyberspace, it can offer a far more personalised service to account-holders. Customers could be addressed by name, rather than by number.

More importantly from the bank's point of view, the Internet will enable NatWest to cross-sell to customers through the ATM, both on the high street and in new-look, open-plan branches.

Messages such as: "Good morning, Ms Smith. Now about that personal loan for a new car ..." and "Withdraw that £50, Mr Brown, and you will trigger the overdraft facility" could become part and parcel of using a NatWest cash machine.

This high-tech experiment with the Internet is just one step in a wider strategy drawn up by Tim Jones, managing director of retail banking services, to update NatWest's services by reshaping the bank. It comes against a backdrop of declining customer attendance at traditional branches.

Mr Jones intends to restructure the branch network by removing most of the clerical work from the branches and transferring it to 60 processing centres. About 10,000 jobs will be lost by the turn of the century as a result.

More and more customers prefer to use ATMs rather than deal directly with a human teller. On the Monday before Christmas, £54 million was withdrawn from cash machines, more than 150 per cent up on the same day last year, according to Link, the country's largest ATM network.

Shaft of light that could be merely a stay of execution

Action is needed fast if Britain's ailing coal industry is to win race against time, says **Christine Buckley**

Thousands of Britain's remaining coalminers were expected to lose their jobs before the new year in a round of up to eight pit closures. They haven't. A belated act of political good will from Downing Street has, at the least, put off the evil day.

The Government has put a moratorium on gas-fired power stations and swiftly brokered a deal with power generators to shore up RJB Mining's production until the summer. A moratorium on open-cast mining developments is expected in the new year. This will help the threatened deep mines and please environmental campaigners, even if it is a double-edged sword for the main coal producers.

The apparent change of heart has been welcomed by coal communities. But it has provided only a stay of execution. What happens between now and the end of June will determine whether the death sentence hanging over a big chunk of the shrunken industry will still be carried out.

Several reviews are in progress that will help to shape the long-term picture for coal. But these, along with the Government's moves, will not avert another crisis point in July. If no new and immediate markets are found for RJB Mining — the country's biggest producer — then the spectre of pit closures and a further 5,000 job losses will loom again. The company faces a shortfall in sales of between ten million and 14 million tonnes next year.

The Government and the company still have several options for short-term relief. But none comes without difficulty, and most have been raised and rejected before.

Coal imports could be stopped. This could bring the wrath of the European Commission if, as seems possible, it required a protective ban on imports from other EU countries. It could also breach worldwide trade agreements.

A more feasible option would be to use government power and patronage to persuade electricity generators to enforce a voluntary ban, or at least to end non-contracted imports. This might, however, require a measure of subsidy unless generators could be pursuaded in some other way to buy higher-priced coal or unless UK coal prices can be reduced to world levels. RJB and the other producers are continually cutting costs, but they cannot readily compete head-on with opencast coal from cheap-labour countries such as Colombia.

A subsidy could be provided via the Treasury or from a levy on electricity bills, reminiscent of the old subsidy for nuclear power. Speculation that the Treasury might be willing to help was raised by the involvement of Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster General, in brokering the latest deals with generators. But it is unlikely that the Treasury would offer coal substantial amounts of cash from taxpayers. One of the few consistent themes to emerge from the Government over coal in the past few months has been that there should be no direct subsidy.

Consumer groups have lobbied heavily against a new levy on customers. But it is clear that coal still stirs strong emotions and a coal levy would probably find more sympathy among the public than the one that has been paid to support nuclear power.

Electricity imported from France through the interconnector could be stopped. In the industry's wilder dreams, the process could even be reversed so that British electricity was exported. If French power imports were stopped, the UK would need to burn the equivalent of an extra seven million tonnes of coal. If we exported, that amount could double and the short-term crisis would be eliminated. However, this solution is likely to encounter similar trade difficulties to the coal imports option. To say the least, France is unlikely to welcome imports of higher-cost UK electricity when it would have a surplus from its own nuclear stations.

Any government action to restrict imports and/or cut the French link, however diplomatic, would be sensitive to the point of high embarrassment during the period when Britain held the presidency of the European Union. Downing Street would have to judge whether domestic political priorities overrode that. Its speedy interim action of late suggests that it might think they do.

Barring such measures, the mining industry could be given a big one-off boost if generators stockpiled much more coal at power stations, as they did before privatisation. Generators say they already have high stockpiles but the Government could set a strategic level for the purposes of security of fuel supply.

The 1993 Trade and Industry Select Committee report on the market for coal recommended stockpiles of 20 million tonnes. The Government could resurrect this. At present the three big coal-using generators have about 13 million tonnes between them.

Stockpiling would be an easy route to take. Such a boost to the mines might also be achieved voluntarily. The generators have been given heavy hints from Whitehall that co-operation over coal will give them a strong voice in the shaping of energy policy over matters such as competition and the future of the power pool. With much to gain, they are unlikely to resist.

The coal industry could boost its exports to other European markets. An old deep-mine industry may not be competitive with newer open-cast production on the world stage, but RJB talks bullishly about prospects for exports to Germany and Spain. After previous failed attempts, however, it is difficult to find anyone in the industry who holds out much hope for RJB's success.

If any, or all, of these actions are taken coal will last as a robustly sized industry beyond July. To ensure a longer-term role and to combat future threats — such as those from environmental obligations — more needs to be done. The Government is keen to have an overall energy plan, but it would have to design that policy to give coal a more solid share in the fuel market.

This could be engineered by keeping a permanent block on new gas-fired power stations. This would infuriate the gas industry and exasperate the hopes of generators such as Eastern, which wants to have a mixed fuel portfolio but has only large coal-fired power stations.

To maintain the drive for more competition in generation, the larger generators might also have to be broken up to make up for the market pressure new gas-powered generators were to provide. But this would sit uneasily with a voluntary approach.

Generators could also be required to buy a fixed percentage of their fuel needs as coal. This would ensure that they maintain coal-fired stations and halt their switch to an increased use of gas stations they already own.

More fundamentally, coal has to overcome its bad name for air pollution. Power stations with clean-up equipment do not run as frequently as dirtier ones because operating costs are higher. The Government could offer incentives to the stations with cleaner emissions and could put funds into development of clean-burn coal stations. But generators have made it clear they will not move without state commitment.

The coal industry and the Government have a six-month breathing space. However, ministers need to show that they are taking action well before the deadline.



Changing times: modern machinery replaced old winching gear at RJB's Harworth Colliery

TELEVISION CHOICE

Back to the scene of horror

The Lost Children of Berlin
BBC2, 8.00pm

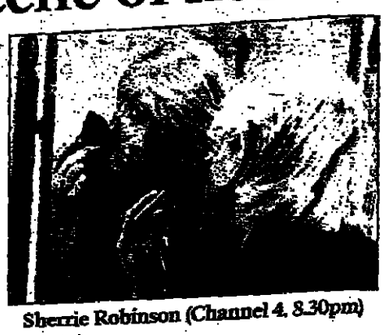
In March 1942, the Nazis closed the last Jewish school in Berlin. Many of the children and teachers were deported to the death camps. But 50 of the former pupils were reunited in Berlin last year, most of them returning to German soil for the first time since the war. Their memories of growing up in Nazi Germany are the basis of this impressive American documentary, the fruit of a project set up by Steven Spielberg to collect testimonies of Holocaust survivors. The persecution of the Jews by the Nazis may be a familiar story but there is nothing like hearing it first-hand from the victims. Here is a child's eye view of what it was like to see fathers arrested, mothers driven to nervous breakdowns and a school classroom with ever bigger gaps as some families left Germany and others were rounded up.

Looking Like Diana
Channel 4, 8.30pm

While Diana, Princess of Wales, was alive there were good livings to be made out of being her double. Lookalikes could count on plenty of foreign travel, hobnobbing with the rich and powerful and adoring glances from people who could not believe they were not seeing the real thing. Then it all changed. To impersonate a much-loved figure seemed suddenly tasteless and the public turned hostile. Three substitute Dianas tell how her death has affected them. Nicky Lilley accepts that her career as a lookalike is over. She is giving her extensive wardrobe to charity and is glad to resume a normal family life with her husband and children. But Christina Hance, who runs a herbal business, and Sherrie Robinson, who sells pizzas, miss the fame and attention and have been more reluctant to let Diana go.

Operation Good Guys
BBC2, 9.30pm

This is a spoof on those fly-on-the-wall documentaries about the police, complete with shaky hand-held camerawork, vintage copspeak and expletives that have to be deleted. The first episode takes time to get going, mainly because there is such a large cast of characters to get acquainted with. But essentially it is about a gang-busting team headed by one DI Beach who sees himself in the great tradition of J. Edgar Hoover, Eliot Ness and Nipper Read. There is a good joke about the snout being a punk hairdresser, which explains why the cops suddenly acquire funny hairdos, and a guest appearance by a certain Dominic England and Arsenal goalkeeper. Anciano, Ray Burdis and Hugo Blick wrote and directed the show and play three of the parts



Sherrie Robinson (Channel 4, 8.30pm)

Secret Lives: Grace Kelly
Channel 4, 9.00pm

After ITV's recent documentary on the Grimaldi dynasty, you might think that there was little left to say about its princess from Hollywood. We know that there was sexual passion behind that ice-cool image, which is precisely why she became a favourite actress of Alfred Hitchcock. The list of her lovers, real and rumoured, has grown to include almost every actor with whom she appeared in films. The latest attempt to get under the Kelly skin denies none of this, though it suggests that her sexual appetite came increasingly in conflict with a need to find comfort in religion. The film claims to be the first to reveal that in the course of her spiritual quest Kelly joined a mysterious cult associated with murder and suicide. In this light, unsurprisingly, her unexplained death in a car accident becomes the subject of renewed speculation. **Peter Waymark**

RADIO CHOICE

Hollywood Christmas: Christmas Eve Problems
Radio 2, 10.30pm

The name of Vincent Price is so entrenched in its association with horror films that most people would not realise (certainly I did not) that Price made an early reputation playing Leslie Charteris's Simon Templar, aka The Saint, a suave buccaneer on behalf of the wronged, a category which happily seemed to be dominated by beautiful women. Price first appeared as Templar in 1947 but this production, the first of four radio treasures this week, went out in America on Christmas Eve 1950. The tape has been digitally remastered, but although sounding crisp, the production retains a degree of period charm. Tonight Templar, initially appears in Santa Claus guise but a blonde with a gun is not long delayed.

Ageing Tastes
Radio 3, 10.20pm

A new series which aims to discover how cultural tastes change as people get older. The concept may not sound promising, but if the first programme, which is about tastes in music, is any guide there are some startling changes going on inside people as they age. Frank Kermode, for example, says that he would not so much as cross the street to hear a Beethoven symphony. Anthony Storr has tired of being "browbeaten" by Wagner and Richard Hoggart has come to find Mahler heavy going. However, all three also have works that have grown on them through familiarity, so that cannot be the cause of their disenchantment with some composers. Future programmes cover literature, food, horticulture and travel. **Peter Barnard**

RADIO 1

6.00am Chris Moyles 10.00 Mark Goodier 12.30pm Mary Anne Hobbs 3.00 Clive Warren 5.55 Newsbeat 6.00 Dance Anthems: Dave Pearce 9.00 Summer Dance 12.00 Essential Mix: Daft Punk 2.00am Gilles Peterson 5.00 Charlie Jordan

RADIO 2

6.00am Richard Allinson 7.30 Sarah Kennedy 9.30 Alex Lester 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Humphrey Lyttelton 8.00 Malcolm Laycock 9.00 Big Band Special 9.30 Hayes Over Britain 10.30 Hollywood Christmas: Christmas Eve Problems. See Choice 11.00 Bob Harris 1.00am Steve Madden 3.00 Patrick Lunt

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am Murray Walker's Grand Prix World (r) 6.30 The Breakfast Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell 11.30 The Celtic Tiger. A new series focusing on life in the Irish Republic 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Extra 7.30 Sportstrack. Memories from 1963 8.00 The Monday Match. Southampton v Chelsea 10.00 Extra Time (r) 11.00 News Extra 11.30 The Celtic Tiger (r) 12.00 After Hours 2.00am Up All Night with Rhod Sharp 5.00 And Now the Weather (r) 5.30 Curling (r)

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Lynn Parsons 10.00 (FM) Robin Banks 1.00pm (FM) Nick Abbot (MW) Nicky Horne 4.00 Mark Forrest 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyte (MW) Caimin Jones 10.00 Jeremy Clark 2.00am Richard Porter

TALK RADIO

6.30am Paul Ross and Carol McGiffin 9.00 Peter Deeley 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Ronnie Barbour 4.00 Bill Overton 7.00 Kate Lloyd 9.00 James Whale 1.00am Andy Wint

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf: High Spirits 7.30 The Vintage Chart Show 8.00 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 8.15 Matter for Debate 9.00 News; News in German (648 only) 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Founders of their Faith 9.30 Westway Access 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Omnibus 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Jazzmatazz 12.00 News 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Seven Days 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Options 3.00 World News; (648 only) News in German 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 Westway Access 3.30 The Boy George Collection 4.00 News 4.15 Seven Days 4.30 The World Today; (648 only) News in German 4.45 Britain Today 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Foul Play. News in German (648 only) 7.00 News 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Pause for Thought 7.30 Multitrack Hit List 8.00 Newshour 9.00 News 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Northern Lights 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.05 Outlook 11.30 Multitrack Hit List 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am Westway 12.45 Britain Today 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 Seven Days 1.45 Sense and Sensibilities 2.00 Newsday 2.30 On Screen 3.00 News 3.05 World Business Report 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Civilization 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Europe Today 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Alan Mann 9.00 Henry Kelly. Includes the Classic Masterpiece and the Hall of Fame Hour 1.00pm Chart of 1799 with Nick Bailey 2.00 Concerto. Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 1 in C major) 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Susannah Simons 8.00 Evening Concert. Haydn (Symphony No 101 in D major; Strings Quartet in B flat major No 4); Beethoven (Piano Sonata No 8 in C minor; Symphony No 1 in C major) 10.00 Margaret Howard 12.00 Sally Peterson 2.00am Concerto (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths: A look back at 1895, when the first moving film was shown in Paris, Oscar Wilde was imprisoned for two years in Reading jail and the first complete performance of Swan Lake was staged in St Petersburg

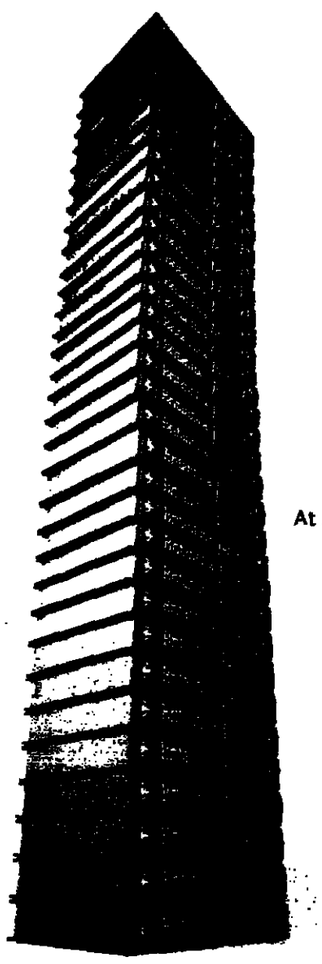
RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Trad Russian (The Angel's Song; We Wish You Good Evening; The Moon is Risen); Glazunov (Violin Concerto); Berlioz (L'Enfance du Christ, Overture: Shepherds' Farewell); Vaughan Williams (The Lark Ascending); Liszt (Transcendental Study No 6 in A minor); Schumann (Piano Concerto)
9.00 Morning Collection. Elgar (Overture: Froissart); Bach (Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue in D minor, BWV903); Tchaikovsky (Andante Cantabile); Granados (Goyescas, Book 1)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with John Toal. Beethoven (Overture: Coriolan); Bach (Goldberg Aria and Variations 1-15); Mendelssohn (Concerto in D minor for violin and piano); Part (Magnificat); Gennadi Petrovich Seveljev (Scars of Soul); Strauss (Four Last Songs)
12.00 Composers of the Week: Twentieth-Century American Song, with Brian Morton
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. Bernard d'Ascoli, piano. Includes Schumann (Kinderszenen); Debussy (Estampes); Chopin (Andante Spianato and Grande Polonaise Brillante); Chopin (Mazurka in B minor, Op 33 No 4); Debussy (General Lavine — Eccentric, Preludes, Bk 2) (r)
2.00 The BBC Orchestras. BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Mark Wigglesworth, with Julian Rachlin, violin. Webern (Passacaglia, Op 1); Schoenberg (Verklärte Nacht); Brahms (Violin Concerto in D); Beethoven (Symphony No 5 in C minor)
4.00 Clementi and Beethoven. Malcolm Binns, piano. Clementi (Capriccio in C, Op 47 No 2); Beethoven (Piano Sonata in E flat, Op 81a, Les Adieux)
4.45 Turns of the Century. Russell Davies profiles Roy Hudd (2/5)
5.00 The Changing Orchestra. Michael Hall explores the changing sound of the recorded orchestra. In this programme, he introduces recordings by the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra of Strauss, Debussy, Bruckner, Mahler, Mozart and Dvořák conducted by Willem Mengelberg, Eduard van Beinum, Bernard Haitink, Nikolaus Harnoncourt and Riccardo Chailly
6.30 Solti Resounding. Four programmes of highlights from Radio 3's tribute evening to Sir Georg Solti (1/4)
7.00 Performance on 3: Blood on the Fields. A jazz oratorio with words and music by Wynton Marsalis. The epic story of a journey by three slaves from Africa to America. Performed by the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Jon Hendricks, Cassandra Wilson and Miles Griffiths. Directed by Wynton Marsalis
10.20 Postscript: Ageing Tastes. See Choice (1/5)
10.45 Mixing It, with Mark Russell and Robert Sandall
11.30 Composers of the Week: British Light Music
12.30am Jazz Notes, with Digby Fairweather. Includes a studio session from drummer Alan Jackson's Quintet, with Steve Waterman, trumpet/flugel, Martin Hathaway, tenor saxophone/flute, Colin Oxley, guitar, and Paul Moylan, double-bass
1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

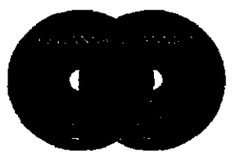
RADIO 4

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.45 Facts and Fancies. Written by and starring Armando Iannucci (1/5) 8.58 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week. The Times columnist Melvyn Bragg and guests review the year
10.00 (FM) News; Big Bang. The first of a new series of the science programme presented by Jez Nelson. Includes an investigation into explosive rocks and a look at the world's worst astronomers
10.00 (LW) News; Daily Service. From Edinburgh
10.15 (LW) On This Day, with Geoffrey Wheeler
10.30 Woman's Hour. Introduced by Jenni Murray
11.30 The Pickwick Papers, by Charles Dickens, dramatised by Marlyn Read (4/6)
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker
12.25pm Masterbrain. Robert Robinson chairs a challenge match featuring the winners and runners-up of Brain of Britain and Mastermind
12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with James Cox
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; A Christmas Card, by Paul Theroux, dramatised by Nick Warburton. A snowbound family is given a Christmas card by a mysterious old man. With Michael Maloney, Timothy Bateson, Christopher Wright and Rachel Atkins
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Debs Brehan
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Tim Marlow recalls the best of the live music played in the studio in 1997
4.45 Short Story: What the Dickens? Iain Patterson's revised version of A Christmas Carol (r)
5.00 PM, with Clare English and Chris Lowe 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 News Quiz of the Year (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme. Derek Cooper explores the seasonal tradition of eating nuts (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: Fighting Over Beverley. The British premiere of Israel Horovitz's internationally acclaimed play. A Yorkshireman flies to America to reclaim the bride taken from him by an American war hero 45 years earlier. With Rosemary Harris and Ian Carmichael
8.15 Singular Women: Stella Miriam Margolyes stars in the third of Stewart Permutt's four bittersweet comedies (r)
9.30 The Pickwick Papers (4/6) (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Playback, by Raymond Chandler. Read by Angus Macinnes (8/10) (r)
11.00 An Artist in Sound: No Son of Ours Will Be an Usherette. A documentary made in 1990 about a campaign to save the Rotherham Empire (r)
11.30 Death on the Nile. The concluding part of Agatha Christie's novel; dramatised by Michael Bakewell. With John Moffatt, Donald Sinden and Amanda Barton-Chapple (r)
12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book — Ghost Stories: Canon Alberic's Scrapbook. The first of five tales by M.R. James. Read by Benjamin Whitrow
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-6.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.



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Answers from page 37

NELUMBO
(b) An aquatic plant or genus of plants, belonging to the family Nymphaeaceae, and including the East Indian or sacred lotus, Nelumbium nucifera, which has white or pink flowers, and the American lotus, Nelumbium pentapetala, which has fragrant yellow flowers. "Nelumbos are reproduced by means of long creeping root-stocks."

HAPUKÚ
(a) A large marine food fish, caught and eaten around New Zealand, *Polyprion oxygenios*. Similar to the cod and the groper. The Maori name. "Hapuku or groper is a large, heavy, deep-sea fish closely related to the bass. It is commonly the cod, but a much richer fish in flavour."

LAMPUKI
(b) A large marine food fish, caught and eaten around Malta, *Coryphaena hippurus* or *equisetis*, similar to a dolphin. G. Butler, *Coffin in Malta*, 1964: "The smell of calamasi and lampuki mingling beautifully with onion and tomato grew stronger."

MORDIDA
(b) A bribe. An illegal exaction in Mexico and adjoining parts. From the Mexican Spanish, *cf.* "put the bite on". "Just go see my friend, Sr G., at Gobernacion. He's such a good friend of mine that you'll not even have to pay a mordida."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. . . . Ng3 wins, as, if 2. Qxg6, then Nde2 is checkmate.

هكذا من الإصل

Pulling out a few post-Christmas plums

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

It seems such a long time since I used the words "excellent" or "outstanding" I'm not sure I can still spell them. But after one of the most lacklustre television *Christmases I can recall*, along came several programmes that were really quite good. One or two of them were even ecxlel … No, it's no good.

After such prolonged exposure to the mediocre there is no doubt that the critical faculties become dulled, so I do feel a little cautious about heaping considerable praise on anything. Will it really seem *quite so good in the cold and sober* light of morning? In the case of **Mothertime** (BBC2), I think it probably will. *Mothertime*, you see, was outstanding. There, I've said it — and spelt it correctly.

There were so many reasons why it should not have been that I almost lost count. The opening five minutes or so, for instance, were quite ghastly. Horribly (and, we quickly learnt, perennially) drunk mother comes home to her smart London townhouse, where her four children are hoping that this Christmas will be better than the last. *It isn't*: in just a few devastating moments, Caroline (Gina McKee) had knocked over the Christmas tree, thrown up, hit her eldest child and finally passed out. I was tempted to switch over, but I'd have missed a treat.

And yet, I say again, it shouldn't have been. McKee was about 20 years too young to have four children and a failed career as a *concert pianist* convincingly behind her, but she looked so gorgeous, locked in the sauna by her enterprising children, that I found that easy to forgive. What with the sweat, the sparkly cocktail dress and the wind machine that had got locked in too, the DTs never looked so good.

What else shouldn't have worked, but did? Well, having so much of the action dependent on the acting abilities of four children, for a start. But they were all excellent, led superbly by Kate Maberly as Vanessa, eldest daughter, surrogate mother and organiser of her mother's enforced detoxification. Having so much of the plot dependent on Vanessa's mimicry shouldn't have worked either. But for all it was contrived (as was Caroline having custody of the children in the first place), it ensured that interesting things happened, so I forgave that, too.

The cleverness of the piece, in particular how estranged mother and father (Anthony Andrews) eventually swap places in their children's estimation, is presumably down to Gillian White's novel. But the execution was near faultless, for which the credit must be shared between Matthew Jacobs, who adapted and directed, and his cast who, without exception, were outstanding. There, *I've said it again*.

Whether **The Woman in White** (BBC1) deserves similar praise must wait until tonight's conclusion. But it made a decently atmospheric start last night, helped by the return of two of the more familiar faces from this festive season — Ian Richardson, hot-foot from his Boxing Day success with *The Canterville Ghost*, to play Mr Fairlie, and Simon Callow, taking time off *from playing* Charles *Dickens* on BBC2 but keeping the same make-up, as Count Fosco. Both, characteristically, *give it plenty*.

Less familiar was the sight of Tara Fitzgerald playing plain and Andrew Lincoln not playing Egg from *This Life*. But once we were sure that Mr Hartright (Lincoln) was going to fall in love with the right sister (Laura, played by Justine Waddell), Wilkie Collins's labyrinthine plot was up and running. Whether David Pirie's *strictly chronological adaptation* can keep up with some of the twists and turns remains to be seen, but so far so good.

Exactly a year ago, this review managed to combine Collins (in that case *The Moonstone*) with **The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures** (BBC2). I know, because I had to check that it was Professor Simon Conway Morris, last year's lecturer, who reminded me of a young John Major. This year, you see, Professor Ian Stewart is a dead ringer for a slightly older William Hague. Strange or what?

Stewart's task is about as steep as the one that faces his *doppelganger* — to convince the traditionally youthful Christmas lectures' audience that mathematics can be fun. On the evidence of his opening lecture, I suspect his *attempt* will go down as a glorious and very watchable failure. In case Professor Stewart is worried, that's *a success in television terms*.

Fibonacci numbers and questions such as "what force law for gravity would not just match Kepler's elliptical orbits but various other things about the speed at which the planets move?" are probably a bit above the younger members of his audience (annoying prodigies notwithstanding) but for anyone hoping to bluff their way through Tom Stoppard's next play, it's perfect. The answer, by the way, is the inverse square law; but you probably knew that anyway.

Finally, an oddity. By virtually ignoring the mounted followers of the Ludlow Hunt, **Under the Sun: The Hunt** (BBC2, Boxing Day) not only missed a sitting target but much of the argument that surrounds turning pest control into a leisure activity. But by concentrating on the hunt servants and the glorious Shropshire countryside, Niek Coppen, the director, *produced a wonderful chronicle of an* endangered way of life. Much of it was stomach-churning, much of it was quite beautiful and the final, perfectly framed picture of the huge dead horse and assorted fallen sheep heaped unceremoniously outside the flesh house combined the two. Peter Greenaway would definitely have approved.

BBC1

7.00am News (T) (2331287) **7.10** Poddington Peas (2819875) **7.15** Teletubbies (2808184) **7.40** The Busy World of Richard Scarry (8235417) **8.05** Yakky Duck (6453962) **8.30** Gadget Boy (7892897) **8.55** Jonny Quest (8347982) **9.20** Sweet Valley High (1687078) **9.45** Pingu (9778417) **9.50** Teletubbies (9761320) **10.20** News (T) (8659417)

10.30 The Ugly Dachshund (1966) An orphaned Great Dane is brought up by a kindly mother dachshund. Directed by Norman Tokar (40523)

12.00 To the Manor Born Classic comedy with a Christmas theme (r) (T) (73707)

12.30pm Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook Gladiator Hunter and Honor Blackman (T) (54879)

1.00 News (T) and weather (50983504)

1.10 Regional News (33391542)

1.15 Neighbours (T) (73042962)

1.35 The Land Before Time (1988) Animated tale for children about an orphaned dinosaur (T) (9077639)

2.40 Vets in Practice (r) (T) (4426320)

3.10 The World's Strongest Man from Las Vegas (T) (7383287)

3.40 Flight of the Navigator (1986) with Joey Cramer. A 12-year-old boy is knocked unconscious and awakes to discover that although eight years have passed, he seems no older. Directed by Randal Kleiser (T) (3272788)

5.05 Blue Peter Review of the Year (1/2) (T) (9788146)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (911981)

6.00 News (T) and weather (317962)

6.15 Regional News (367487)

6.30 Telly Addicts Christmas show with celebrity contestants Ant and Dec, Shane Richie, Angela Griffin, Tracy Shaw and Claudia Winkleman (T) (184)

7.00 This Is Your Life (T) (8558)

7.30 Animal Sanctuary John Craven visits Chimfunshi chimpanzee sanctuary in Zambia (T) (368)

8.00 EastEnders *The Mitchells nurse their* hangovers and more than a few grievances (T) (1078)

8.30 Auntie's New Winter Bloomers Comical out-takes (3813)

9.00 News (T) and white (2165)

9.30 The Woman in White Marian and Laura resolve to escape Blackwater Park (2/2) (T) (2129981)

10.35 Films of the Year with Barry Norman Barry's top ten films from 1997 (T) (267252)

11.20 Rhythm of Life with Sir George Martin (2/3) (224707)

12.10am Carry On England (1976) The commanding officer of a mixed-sex anti-aircraft platoon attempts to put a stop to the romantic shenanigans among his staff. Directed by Gerald Thomas (5691837)

1.40 Blue City (1986) with Judd Nelson and Ally Sheedy. A young drifter is shocked to discover his father has been murdered. Directed by Michelle Manning (T) (3855160)

2.50 Weather (3973924)

2.55 BBC News 24

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

7.05am Match of the Day Highlights from two of yesterday's FA Premiership matches (r) (T) (9206287)

8.20 Great Myths and Mysteries of the 20th Century: Rudolf Hess (9545610)

8.45 The Golden Hour (1941) The madcap adventures of James Stewart as a harmonica-obsessed man employed by a radio show. Also with Paulette Goddard. Directed by George Marshall (1580287)

10.05 Mr Smith Goes to Washington (1939) James Stewart stars in director Frank Capra's highly acclaimed political satire as an idealistic Senator (57778287)

12.10pm Close-Up on James Stewart (9928558)

12.15 Cambridge Folk Festival (1/3) Highlights (8188184)

12.55 The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures: The Magical Maze (2/5) (T) (1920287)

1.55 We Dive at Dawn (1943, b/w) Second World War adventure about a British submarine crew stranded in the Baltic Sea, starring John Mills and Eric Portman. Directed by Anthony Asquith (T) (88785962)

3.30 The Way to the Stars (1945, b/w) John Mills stars as a young pilot during the Second World War. Directed by Anthony Asquith (T) (259252)

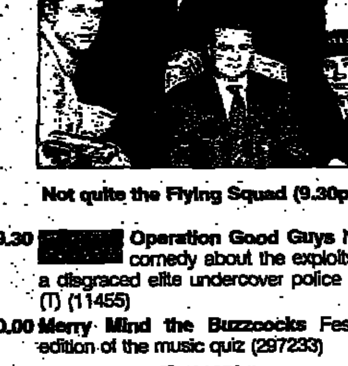
5.15 Everything to Play For Mark Wigglesworth joins theatre director Matthew Warchus to prove a massive budget isn't necessarily needed to stage an opera (4/6) (303417)

5.45 Zulu (1964) Classic Zulu Wars epic with Michael Caine in his first major film. Also starring Stanley Baker, Jack Hawkins, Ulla Jacobsson and Nigel Green, with narration by Richard Burton. Directed and co-written by Cy Endfield (T) (45980542)

8.00 CHOICE **The Lost Children of Berlin** Anthony Hopkins narrates a documentary about the last Jewish school in 1942 Berlin (T) (839691)

8.50 Close-Up on James Stewart (971691)

9.00 The Fast Show Last in the present series (T) (2897)



Not quite the Flying Squad (9.30pm)

9.30 CHOICE **Operation Good Guys** New comedy about the exploits of a disgraced elite undercover police unit (T) (11455)

10.00 Merry Mind the Buzzcocks Festive edition of the music quiz (297233)

10.40 Stella Street (T) (918504)

10.50 The Christmas Armistice Satirical sketch show (1/2) (T) (359287)

11.35 Stella Street (T) (876349)

11.45 Germinal (1993) Gérard Depardieu stars in this acclaimed French epic directed by Claude Berri. With English subtitles (52758523)

2.20am Weather (2700491)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (2185900)

9.25 The Fantastic Voyages of Sinbad the Sailor (1695097)

9.55 News (T) and weather (7448639)

10.00 Freakazoid! Animation (12271)

10.30 The Princess Bride (1987) Cary Elwes, Mandy Patinkin, Christopher Guest and Chris Sarandon in a medieval fantasy adventure. Directed by Rob Reiner (T) (97003829)

12.20pm Regional News (9822320)

12.30 News (T) and weather (46560542)

12.40 *WALES: Soccer Special* (8120287)

12.40 Dr Quinn: Medicine Woman (r) (T) (8120287)

1.25 Wild Hearts Can't Be Broken (1991) Fact-based romantic drama starring Gabrielle Anwar. During the American Depression, an orphan runs away and joins a travelling show. Directed by Steve Miner (T) (67817542)

3.05 The Return of the Pink Panther (1974) starring Peter Sellers as Inspector Clouseau. When the "Pink Panther" diamond is stolen again the inspector is recalled from suspension, to his boss's distress. With Christopher Plummer, Catherine Schell and Herbert Lom. Directed by Blake Edwards (T) (23215349)

5.05 Talking Telephone Numbers (3618165)

5.40 News (T) and weather (267287)

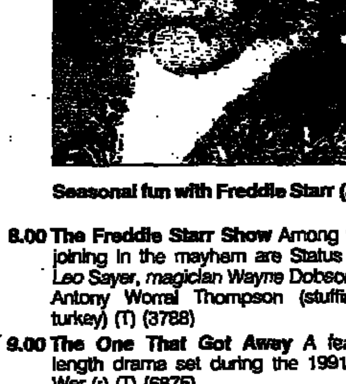
6.00 The Baldy Man: Mother's Day/Smell (602184)

6.25 Regional Weather (941610)

6.30 Regional News and weather (252)

7.00 Michael Barrymore's *Strike it Rich* (T) (9946)

7.30 Coronation Street Ashley and Zoe are drawn together (T) (436)



Seasonal fun with Freddie Starr (8pm)

8.00 The Freddie Starr Show Among those joining in the mayhem are Status Quo, *Leo Sayer, magician Wayne Dobson and* Antony Worral Thompson (stuffing a turkey) (T) (3788)

9.00 The One That Got Away A feature-length drama set during the 1991 Gulf War (r) (T) (6875)

11.00 News (T) and weather (534691)

11.15 Regional News (814349)

11.25 Something Wild (1986) Offbeat thriller with Jeff Daniels and Melanie Griffith. A straitlaced tax consultant is picked up by a kinky young woman who takes him on a wild and unpredictable journey. Directed by Jonathan Demme (T) (56730875)

1.30am Football Extra (53450)

2.30 Rockmania (40450)

3.30 The Gramophone Awards 1997 (125189)

5.25 Coronation Street (r) (T) (3362363)

5.55 News (6924856)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:

12.39pm Air Watch (15654271)

12.40 The Fashion Police (2685097)

1.15-1.25 Cartoon Time (33376233)

6.30-7.00 Central News (252)

2.30am The 1997 World Music Awards (165011)

4.25 Film: The Seekers (5702905)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

9.55-10.00 Birthday People (7448639)

12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (9822320)

12.40 The Westcountry Match (8120287)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (24676)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:

12.40 Shortland Street (2885097)

1.15-1.25 Cartoon Time (33376233)

6.00 Meridian Tonight (900)

6.30-7.00 The Baldy Man (252)

5.25am Look and Cook (3362363)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except:

12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (9841455)

12.40 What's My Line? Game show chaired by Emma Forbes. With June Whitfield, Roy Hudd, Peter Smith and Kate Robbins (2885097)

1.15-1.25 Cartoon Time (33376233)

5.39-5.40 Anglia Air Watch (417558)

6.28 Anglia Weather (941610)

6.30-7.00 Anglia News (252)

11.14 Anglia Air Watch (258225)

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (35707)

7.00 The Babysitters' Club (9956078)

7.35 Two Stupid Dogs (8254542)

8.00 The Big Breakfast (17726)

10.00 Zig and Zag's Big Morning (8671639)

10.01 Happy Days (5348441)

10.35 The Secret World of Alex Mack (1107078)

11.05 Moesha (8210436)

11.30 The Monkees (6368)

12.00 Coping With (8161417)

12.35pm Eerie, Indiana (5733455)

1.00 Slot Meithrin (50990894)

1.15 Miffi (50995349)

1.30 Boy Meets World (98558)

2.00 A Woman of Substance (3165)

4.00 Countdown Special (165)

4.30 Countdown (349)

5.00 5 Pump (9619368)

5.15 Sion Blewyn Coch (6757184)

5.40 Crefyddau'r Byd Wedi Eu Hanimeiddio (265829)

6.00 Newyddion (517900)

6.10 Heno (754320)

7.00 Pobol y Cwm (332233)

7.25 Cyngerdd Caneuon Tony Ac Aloma (775233)

8.20 Newyddion (356233)

8.35 Refferendwm '97 (567962)

9.35 Looking Like Diana (844707)

10.05 Film: Nell (1994) starring Liam Neeson, Jodie Foster and Natasha Richardson, directed by Michael Apted (60863504)

12.10am The American Football Big Match (5749289)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (35707)

7.00 *The Babysitters' Club* (r) (9956078)

7.35 Two Stupid Dogs (r) (8254542)

8.00 The Big Breakfast (17726)

10.00 Zig and Zag's Big Morning (8671639) **10.01** Happy Days (r) (5348441) **10.35** The Secret World of Alex Mack (r) (1107078) **11.05** Moesha (r) (8210436) **11.30** The Monkees (8219691)

12.05pm Coping With: Holidays A new comedy drama series exploring the idiosyncrasies of human behaviour as seen through the eyes of children (1/6) (2037639)

12.35 Eerie, Indiana (r) (T) (5733455)

1.00 The Entertainers The world of the Beverley Artiste Agency (r) (T) (14542)

2.00 A Woman of Substance A mini-series based on the novel by Barbara Taylor Bradford, starring Deborah Kerr and Jenny Seagrove (1/3) (r) (T) (3165)

4.00 Bewitched (r) (165) **4.30** Countdown (T) (2019691) **4.55** Montel Williams (T) (5405417) **5.30** The Crystal Maze Christmas Special (r) (T) (594875)

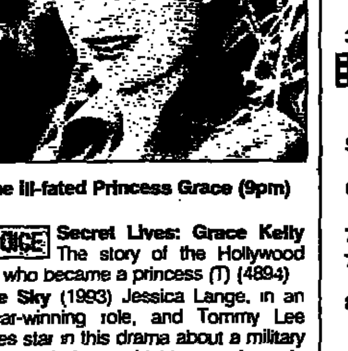
6.25 Fresh Pop (949252)

6.30 Hollyoaks Kurt and Ruth give their relationship another chance (T) (894)

7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (8368)

7.30 The Remote Controllers Despite there being more television channels to choose *from, we as a nation are watching less* television. Has the couch potato become a more discerning viewer? (T) (96523)

8.30 CHOICE ***Looking Like Diana*** The effect of the sudden death of Diana, Princess of Wales, on the lives of three Diana lookalikes (T) (6523)



The ill-fated Princess Grace (9pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Secret Lives: Grace Kelly** The story of the Hollywood *star who became a princess* (T) (4894)

10.00 Blue Sky (1993) Jessica Lange, in an Oscar-winning role, and Tommy Lee *Jones star in this drama about a military* man married to a highly sexed manic depressive (T) (323813)

11.55 The American Football Big Match: The Road to Super Bowl XXXII (786707)

1.10am Vampire Circus (1971) starring Adrienne Corri. A horror thriller set in a plague-ridden village in Serbia. Directed *by Robert Young* (512059)

2.45 Dreamland Express (r) (6045160)

3.00 China Seas (1935, b/w) A romantic adventure starring Clark Gable, Jean Harlow and Rosalind Russell. Directed by Tay Garnett (927108)

4.35-6.00 Susan Lenox: Her Fall and Rise (1931, b/w) starring Greta Garbo and Clark Gable. A farmer's illegitimate daughter runs away when he tries to marry her off. Directed by Robert Z. Leonard (23401030)

CHANNEL 5

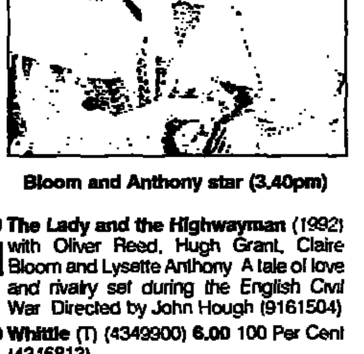
CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a **Videocrypt** decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: **10.92075 GHz**; sound: ***7.02 and 7.20 MHz***

6.00am Dappledown Farm (r) (7618691) **6.30** The Wind in the Willows (90256356) **6.50** Mr Men and Little Miss (r) (30289829) **7.00** Wimzie's House (1708469) **7.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (6558766) **8.00** Havakazoo (r) (9807833) **8.30** The Bush Patrol (r) (2565454) **9.00** Stickin' Around (r) (6552766) **9.30** Wishbone (2/2) (r) (1189320)

10.00 The Enid Blyton Secret Series The first of five daily children's adventures (37516165)

11.50 Animal Xtremes: Killer Crocs (90567271) **12.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (6657310) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (1190436) **1.00** 5 News Update (68432726) **1.05** Sunset Beach (T) (4856558)

2.00 Secret of Treasure Mountain (1993) A young boy sets out to find hidden Spanish gold. Scott Swofford directs (4482455)



Bloom and Anthony star (3.40pm)

3.40 The Lady and the Highwayman (1992) with Oliver Reed, Hugh Grant, Claire Bloom and Lysette Anthony. A tale of love and rivalry set during the English Civil War. Directed by John Hough (9161504)

5.30 Whittle (T) (4349900) **6.00** 100 Per Cent (4346813)

6.30 Family Affairs Angus breaks some devastating news (T) (4337165)

7.00 Exclusive (5705078)

7.30 Empire of the Elephant A documentary *about the African elephant* (T) (4333349)

8.00 Period Rooms The two teams are challenged to create an Edwardian nursery (5714726)

8.30 5 News (T) (5793233)

9.00 Kane and Abel Concluding the dramatisation of Jeffrey Archer's best-seller (32121184)

10.50 The Jack Docherty Show (1251726)

11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H (2003523)

12.35am Deadly Care (1987) with Cheryl Ladd. A drama about a nurse who takes to drugs to help her to get through her day. David Anspaugh directs (4835818)

2.25 Little Dorrit — Nobody's Fault (1987) Derek Jacobi, Alec Guinness and Sarah Pickering star in this outstanding version of Charles Dickens's classic. Concludes tomorrow. Directed by Christine Edzard (38374059)

***5.25* The Road** A profile of Mary Chapin Carpenter (77445450)

5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (7682276)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● For further listings see Saturday's *Vision*

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (342423) **9.00** Hotel (12368) **10.00** Another World (84146) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (77610) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (30556) **1.00pm** Geraldo (43078) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (40078) **3.00** Jenny Jones (43504) **4.00** Oprah Winfrey (52639) **5.00** Star Trek: Voyager (9875) **6.00** The Live 6 Show (5165) **6.30** Married ...with Children (6417) **7.00** The Simpsons (1784) **7.30** Real TV (8929) **8.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (75691) **9.00** Poltergeist: The Legacy (85455) **10.00** Sliders (98542) **11.00** Star Trek: Voyager (65875) **12.00** Late Show with David Letterman (68498) **1.00am** In the Heat of the Night (28943) **2.00** Long Play (6668030)

SKY BOX OFFICE

Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To view any film telephone 0990 800888. Each film costs £2.99 per viewing

SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 28) ***Jingle All the Way* (1996)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) **Chain Reaction (1996)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) ***The First Wives' Club* (1996)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) **The Crow: City of Angels (1996)**

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

6.00am Housekeeping (1987) (36184) **8.00 David Copperfield** (1970) (37558) **10.00 Gold Diggers: The Secret of Bear Mountain** (1995) (62538423) **11.45 Captive Hearts** (1987) (17802829) **1.30pm Breaking Away** (1979) (58235233) **3.15 A Pyromaniac's Love Story** (1995) (132928) **5.15 Gold Diggers: The Secret of Bear Mountain** (1995) (873271) **6.45 Now and Then** (1996) (30144639) **8.30 The Movie Show** (3455) **9.00 Up Close and Personal** (1996) (70145) **11.00 The Plague** (1992) (20555320) **1.05am Stolen Youth** (1996) (2412566) **2.30 Hot Pursuit** (1987) (30574) **4.05 Drop Squad** (1994) (658092)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

6.00am The Walls of Jericho (1948) (34726) **8.00 The Next Karate Kid** (1994) (56900) **10.00 Mimochio Strikes Back** (1996) (40861) **12.00 The Jackpot** (1950) (41784) **1.50pm A Tree Grows in Brooklyn** (1945) (18914455) **4.00 Young Indiana Jones and the Hollywood Follies** (1995) (9775417) ***6.00 Captive Island*** (93287) **7.30 El Festores** (6839) **8.00 The West Side Waltz** (1995) (79417) **10.00 The Rock — Preview** (349097) **10.05 The Rock** (1996) (43247097) **12.30am Crescent** (1996) (769016) **2.10 Burnt by the Sun** (1994) (72356030) **4.25 Captive Island** (1995) (618634)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm The Seventh Voyage of Sinbad (1958) (9385455) ***6.00 Who's Harry Crumb?*** **(1989)** (4527962) **8.00 F.I.S.T.** (1978) (41105558) **10.10 The Entity** (1983) (35466894) **12.15am Life Force** (1985) (8656106) **2.10 You Were Never Lovelier** (1942) (7639092) **3.45 Close**

TNT

9.00pm Poltergeist (1982) (56219981) **11.00 Forbidden Planet** (1956) (41696681) **12.45am Brass Target** (1978) (40029108) **2.45 Poltergeist** (1982) (52203568) **5.00 Close**

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Extreme Sport (10059) **7.30** Football League Review (94891) **9.00** Racing News (38271) **9.30** Aerobics (41233) **10.00** Football Special (84271) **11.30** World Sport Special (86900) **12.00** Aerobics (25707) **12.30pm** Powerboats (52349) **1.00** Football Special (51271) **2.30** NFL (3315504) **6.00** Sports Centre (2469) **6.30** Football League Review (4691) **7.00** Southampton v Chelsea — Live (4490368) **10.30** Sports Centre (35184) **11.00** Football League Review (94252) **11.30** V-Max (83707) **12.00** Football (95565) **2.00am** Football League Review (52011) **2.30** Sports Centre (48818) **3.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics (9233542) **7.30** Windsurfing (9228349) **8.00** Racing News (5055504) **8.30** World Sport Special (5054875) **9.00** Basketball: Manchester Giants v Greater London Leopards (6932233) **11.00** Windsurfing (5727338) *11.30 Football League Review* (2958542) **1.00pm** Darts: PDC World Championships — Live (4658788) **5.00** Futbol Mundial (2626875) **5.30** Football League Review (8218788) **6.00** Windsurfing (6311829) **6.30** V-Max (6222981) **7.00** Sports Centre (2646639) **7.30** Darts: PDC *World Championships — Live* (2524097)

11.30 Windsurfing (6951368) **12.00** Fishing: Marlin Cup (4663924) **2.00am** Sports *Centre* (5590566) **2.30** Close

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm Cricket: Australia v South Africa (38011078) **4.00** Basketball: Manchester Giants v London Leopards (45188962) **6.00** Cricket: Australia v South Africa (50500542) **10.00** Rugby League: Super League Classics (63318436) **11.30** Close

EUROSPORT

7.30am Sailing: Whitbread Round the World Race (19784) **8.00** Skiing: Women's World Cup (6934349) **9.15** Ski-Jumping: World Cup Four Hills Tournament (52702639) **11.30** Skiing: Men's World Cup Downhill — Live (76813) **1.00pm** World Cup Special (93184) **3.00** Skiing: Men's World *Cup Downhill* (56964) **4.00** Ski-Jumping: World Cup Four Hills Tournament (2981) **6.00** 4x4 Off-Road (5707) **6.30** Speedworld Magazine (52233) **7.30** Showjumping: Nations Cup — Live (498417) **10.00** Eurogoals (56726) **11.30** Boxing: International Lightweight Contest (93417) **12.30am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Bullseye (4960523) **7.35** Neighbours (4753788) ***8.00 Crossroads*** (2626097) **8.25** EastEnders (6468962) **9.00** The Bill (6667320) **9.30** Howards' Way (9977962) **10.00** Bless This House (1045523) **10.30** The Sullivans (6663504) **11.00** Boon (8892610) **12.00** Crossroads (46754455) **12.25pm** Neighbours (46757542) **12.55** EastEnders (2688252) **1.30** Hi-De-Hi! (7225252) **2.25** The Les Dawson Show (10454184) **3.30** The Bill (3448368) **4.00** Juliet Bravo (38278165) **5.05** EastEnders (1732455) **5.40** Only Fools and Horses (26300504) **7.25** A Word with Alf (4096894) **7.40** Rosie (8169417) **8.20** Open All Hours (8545851) **9.00** Dad's Army (2516681) **9.40** Casualty (97283271) **10.45** Yes, Minister (5125455) **11.25** Paul Merton: The Series (3471349) **12.00** Between the Lines (3016656) **12.55am** Spitting Image (4548740) **1.25** Miami Vice (2083108) **2.15** Shopping (48675924)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box (8577078) **7.00** Coronation St (3741959) ***7.50 New Year on the Street*** (3928078) **8.00** Blind Date (6790287) **9.00** Within These Walls (4632558) **10.00** Donahue (6092352) **11.00** Hart to Hart (6089788) **12.00** Coronation St (8425610) **12.30pm** New Year on the Street (2995165) **1.00** On the Buses (6083504) **1.30** Please Sir! (2994436) **2.00** The Good Guys (7508726) **3.00** Donahue (7732368) **4.00** *Mission: Impossible* (7711875) **5.00** Hawaii Five-O (3589981) ***6.00 New Year on the Street*** (7852542) **6.30** Coronation St (7843894) **7.00** Blind Date (3933225) **8.00** Hart to Hart (7838933) **9.00** Coronation St (7813287) **9.30** Hale and Pace (2088629) **10.00** Hawaii Five-O (4383788) **11.00** Close



Shirley MacLaine and Kathy Bates star (Sky Movies Screen 2, 8pm)

CARLTON SELECT (cable)

5.00pm Gridlock (68338225) **5.30** Hey Dad !! (28208707) **6.00** Blockbusters (28298320) **6.30** A Country Practice (28212900) **7.00** The Bounder (42938469) **7.30** Pull the Other One (28218184) **8.00** Birds of a Feather (91689977) **8.30** London Bridge (51483374) **9.00** Chancer (56203320) **10.00** Soldier, Soldier (56213707) **11.00** St Elsewhere (84939894) **12.00** Pull the Other One (88369160) **12.30am** Tales of the Unexpected (54681276) **1.00** Close

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Elmo Saves Christmas **7.00** The Little Mermaid **7.30** Quack Pack **8.00** Brand Spanking New Doug **9.00** Nightmare Ned **9.30** Gargoyles **10.00** Recess **10.15** Pepper Ann **10.30** Smart Guy **11.00** Boy Meets World **11.30** Brotherly Love **12.00** The Wonder Years **12.30pm** Home Improvement **1.00 FILM: The Paper Brigade** **2.30** Winnie the Pooh **2.45** Puff the Magic *Dragon in the Land of Living Lies* **3.15** Timon and Pumbaa **3.30** Recess **3.45** Gargoyles **4.15** Recess **4.30** Brand Spanking New Doug **5.00** Smart Guy **5.30** Student Bodies **6.00** Boy Meets World **6.30** Home Improvement **7.00 FILM: Just Like Dad** **8.35** Dinosaurs **9.00** Touched by an Angel *10.00 Close*

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Daffy and His Friends **6.30** Billy the Cat **7.00** Pinocchio **7.30** Power Rangers Zeo **8.00** Big Bad Beetleborgs **8.30** Masked Rider **9.00** Ace Ventura **9.30** Casper **10.00** The Tick **10.30** Incredible Hulk **11.00** Bureau of Alien Detectors **11.30** Phantom 2040 **12.00** The Mouse and the Monster **12.30pm** Life with Louie **1.00** The Mouse and the Monster **1.30** C Bear and Jamal **2.00** Eeki Stravaganza **2.30** Power Rangers Zeo **3.00** Big Bad Beetleborgs **3.30** Masked Rider **4.00** Ace Ventura **4.30** Casper **5.00** The Tick **5.30** X Men **6.00** Spiderman **6.30** Sweet Valley High **7.00** Close

TCC

6.00am Happily Ever After **6.30** Bobby's World **7.00** Spirou **7.30** Dennis the Menace **8.00** Batman **8.30** Batman **9.00** Earthworm Jim **9.30** Romuald the Reindeer **9.45** Romuald the Reindeer **10.00** Oscar's Orchestra **10.30** Flash Gordon **11.00** Iznogoud **11.30** Gigantor **12.00** Spirou **12.30pm** Sonic the Hedgehog **1.00** Batman **1.30** AJ's Time *Travelers* **2.00** Iznogoud **2.30** *Flash Gordon* **3.00** Sonic the Hedgehog **3.30** Earthworm Jim **4.00** Dennis the Menace **4.30** Batman **5.00** Close

CARTOON NETWORK

All your favourite cartoons broadcast from **5.00am** to **9.00pm**, seven days a week.

NICKELODEON

6.00am Rugrats **6.30** Rugrats **7.00** Rugrats **7.30** Rugrats **8.00** Rugrats **8.30** Rugrats **9.00** Rugrats **9.30** Rugrats **10.00** Rugrats **10.30** Rugrats **11.00** Rugrats **11.30** Rugrats **12.00** Rugrats **12.30pm** Rugrats **1.00** The Secret World of Alex Mack **1.30** Clarissa Explains it All **2.00** The Adventures of Pete and Pete **2.30** Kablam! **3.00** Bally *Nipper's POV* **3.30** *Capitol Critters* **4.00** Jumanji **4.30** Rugrats **5.00** Sister Sister **5.30** Kenan and Kel **6.00** Sabrina the Teenage Witch **6.30** Moesha **7.00** Close

TROUBLE

12.00pm Swan's Crossing **12.30** Ready or Not **1.00** Madison **1.30** California Dreams **2.00** Saved by the Bell **2.30** Swan's Crossing **3.00** No Naked Flames **3.30** Ready or Not **4.00** Saved by the Bell **4.30** USA High **5.00** Hangtime **5.30** California Dreams **6.00** TX Six **6.30** Madison **7.00** Hangtime **7.30** USA High **8.00** Close

CHALLENGE TV

5.00pm Cross Wits **5.30** Move on Up **6.00** *Family Fortunes* **6.30** Catchphrase **7.15** $64,000 Question **8.00** Split Second **8.30** Karaoke Challenge **9.15** Winner Takes All **10.00** Treasure Hunt **11.15** Karaoke Challenge **12.00** Say the Word **12.30am** Hart to Hart **1.30** Big Valley **2.30** Zorro **3.00** Byrds of Paradise **4.00** Cliff Hanger **4.30** Jingle *Bell Rap* **5.00** *Screenshop*

BRAVO

8.00pm The A-Team (4416875) **9.00** Tour of Duty (4436639) **10.00** Red Shoe Diaries (5528184) **10.45 FILM: Wanted: Dead or Alive (1987)** (9403271) **12.45am** Tour of Duty (1822721) **1.45** Red Shoe Diaries (5921653) **2.30 FILM: Slaughter (1972)** (2465450) **4.30** Family Dog (6980491) **5.00** Starsky and Hutch (4033653)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm *Grace Under Fire* (6320) **7.30** Roseanne (8417) **8.00** Ellen (2368) **8.30** Cybill (1875) **9.00** Cheers (97349) **9.30** Taxi (63455) **10.00** Frasier (24078) **10.30** The Kenny Everett Show (33726) **11.00** Sex in Bed with MeDinner (92894) **11.30** Ellen (81349) **12.00** Roseanne (58450) **12.30am** Nightstand (42301) **1.00** Soap (82189) **1.30** Taxi (21566) **2.00** Sex in Bed with MeDinner (50653) **2.30** Grace Under Fire (39160) **3.00** Frasier (95653) **3.30** The Kenny Everett Show (53740) **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Sightings (3542610) **10.00** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (3538417) **11.00** Friday the 13th (6850639) **12.00** Sightings (2530568) **1.00am** The Twilight Zone (9121301) **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected (3933011) **2.00** Dark Shadows (7055382) **2.30** New Alfred Hitchcock (7041189) **3.00** Friday the 13th (9833721) **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am Wheel Nuts **9.30** Wheel Nuts **10.00** Wheel Nuts **10.30** Wheel Nuts **11.00** Wheel Nuts **11.30** Wheel Nuts **12.00** Two's Country **12.30pm** Two's Country **1.00** Two's Country **1.30** Two's Country **2.00** Two's Country **2.30** Two's Country **3.00** Two's Country **3.30** Two's Country

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Bush Tucker Man (3423417) **4.30** Flightline (3525829) **5.00** Best of British (8659894) **6.00** Sharks — the Real Story (9994639) **7.00** Discovery News (8650623) **7.30** Disaster (3526558) **8.00** Jaws: Danger Beach (4429349) **9.00** Jaws: in the Shadow of the White Shark (4432813) **10.00** Jaws: Sharks (4435900) **11.00** Jaws: Teeth of Death (8688417) **12.00** Best of British (3537905) **1.00am** Disaster (9530130) **1.30** Beyond 2000 (9411547) **2.00** Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Explorer (8485829) ***8.00 Save the Panda*** (8338349) **9.00** Circus Maximus: Florilegio (8301813) **10.00** Circus Maximus: Inside the Soviet Circus (8304900) **11.00** Circus Maximus: Volga, the Soul of Russia (5628320) **12.00** Explorer (2263498) **1.00am** Close

TRAVEL (cable)

12.00pm A Shared World **1.00** Caribbean Diary **1.30** Railway Adventures Across Europe **2.00** Reel World **2.30** On the Road to the Islands **3.00** Holiday International **4.00** Cities of the World **4.30** Greg's World **5.00** Aspects of Life **5.30** The Ocean World of John Stoneman **6.00** Sports Safaris **6.30** A Fork in the Road **7.00** Travel Live **8.00** On the Horizon **8.30** The Flavours of France **9.00** An Aerial Tour of Britain **10.00** On Tour **10.30** Snow Safari **11.00** Widlake's Way

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm China Rising (2773418) **5.00** The Hong Kong Story (3639810) **6.00** Ancient Mysteries (7120287) **7.00** Biography George Marshall (2110875) **8.00** Close

CARLTON FOOD (cable)

12.00pm *Food Network Daily* **12.30** *The Green Gourmet* **1.00** Food for Thought **1.30** For Better, for Worse **2.00** Frances Bissell's West Country Kitchen **2.30** Food Network Daily **3.00** Surprise Chefs **3.30** Graham Kerr's Kitchen **4.00** Can't Stand the Heat **4.30** Planet Nosh **5.00** Close

LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living **9.00** The Heat Is On **9.30** Tempest **10.10** Jerry Springer **11.00** The Young and the Restless **11.55** Brookside **12.25pm** Jimmy's **1.00** Cheap Chic **1.30** Ready, Steady, Cook **2.05** Hart to Hart **3.00** Could It Be a Miracle? **4.10** Jerry Springer **5.00** Rolonda **5.50** Cheap Chic **6.20** Ready, Steady, Cook **7.00** Rescue 911 **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **8.00** Jerry Springer **9.00 FILM: Tonya and Nancy** **11.00** The Sex Zone **12.00** Close

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran **7.30** Ru Ba Ru **8.00** ZEE Business Show **8.30** Aahaa **9.00 FILM: Bluff Master** **11.30** Margarita **12.00** Parampara **12.30pm** Daraar **1.00** Hindi **FILM: Avtaar** **4.00** Ikko Pe Ikka **4.30** Udan Choo **5.00** Pop Korn **5.30** Dance Mania *6.00 Hum Paanch 6.30 Mast Must Show* **7.00** Your Zindagi **7.30** It's My Choice **8.00** News and Euronews **8.30** Sailaab **9.00** Hindi **FILM: Tohfa** **12.00** Close

MTV

The 24 hour music channel

VH-1

The video hits channel

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Winners and losers of a vintage year

BUSINESS

COAL OR DOLE 46
Industry fights for survival of mining



BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

MONDAY DECEMBER 29 1997

Brown could tax £15bn worth of benefits in drive to cut costs

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

THE Government could tax benefits worth about £15 billion a year in a bid to cut down on the net cost to the Exchequer of social security payments that are not means tested.

Ministers are understood to be considering imposing tax on child benefit. But this is only the biggest of several social security benefits that are not taxable. Those that cost most are the disability living allowance for people with severe physical disability and the attendance allowance. Both of these are involved in the Government's current review of support for the disabled. Maternity allowance and some other smaller benefits could also be taxed.

At present, child benefit payments worth a total of £6.3 billion are paid out to nearly seven million families annually. The benefit is worth £11 a week for the eldest child and £9 for each subsequent child. Taxing the benefit would reduce the value of the £11 payout to £6.60 for higher-rate taxpayers — those earning more than £30,146.

Basic-rate taxpayers — those with taxable income between £8,146 and £30,146 — would receive £8.47 of the £11 benefit, while lower-rate taxpayers with taxable earnings between £4,045 and £8,146 would still get £8.80 of the original allowance. Those who do not earn enough to be taxed would be unaffected.

Taxing the child benefit alone is not likely to raise vast amounts of money for Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, as the mothers who claim the benefit tend to be low taxpayers or do not pay tax at all. However, if the total income of the family were to be taken into account when considering whether to tax child benefit, then the total raised by the Revenue could be much greater.

The Government is already considering treating the family as one income unit in its overhaul of family credit, which is paid to those on low income with children.

Other benefits that could be taxed are the disability living allowance, which costs a total of £4.2 billion a year, and is paid to 1.8 million people, and the attendance allowance, which costs more than £2.4 billion and is paid to 1.2 million people. Those on disability allowance receive £37.75 per week, while those on the attendance allowance get £49.50 a week.

The last Government started the process of taxing previously untaxed benefits when it reformed the invalidity benefit. In 1995, the Government changed this into incapacity benefit and made it taxable.

TUC warning, page 44

Banks seek pact over Korean debt

BY GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

TOP banks from Japan, the United States and Europe are to meet in New York today to thrash out an international pact to roll over short-term South Korean debt.

The banks are expected to meet under the chairmanship of America's Citicorp. They aim to slow the accelerating tide of bankruptcies in Korea and the ensuing bad debts in their own balance sheets.

In Tokyo, Eisuke Sakakibara, Japan's Vice-Finance Minister, said that with the co-operation of commercial banks and the first $10 billion (£5.9 billion) of the $60 billion IMF support package "South Korea is being saved from the crisis".

In Washington, however, Mark Malloch Brown, vice-president of the World Bank, said that the damage to Korea and other parts of South-East Asia would be "very prolonged". South Korea had led the world in reducing poverty, he said, but this could be reversed in the absence of foreign support.

In Seoul, Kim Dae Jung, President Elect, has insisted on changes to the emergency reform package being introduced as one of the conditions of IMF support. These would make clear that a new, more powerful monetary authority would be independent of government rather than under direct control of the finance ministry. Parliament still hopes to pass the reforms today, its last normal day of session this year.

The package will open Korean banks and industrial companies to foreign control just as they are at their most vulnerable. Despite Friday's rally, the won, Korea's currency, has dropped 44 per cent this year. Share prices have plunged by an average 42 per cent and three-year loans trade at interest rates of 27 per cent. The emergency reform will also amend protective labour laws, making it easier to sack workers in the event of takeover, merger or insolvency.

Union groups appear to have accepted the incoming President's reversal of policy. At weekend talks, Mr Kim offered a tripartite body to try to contain unrest as wages are frozen and jobs axed. But Bae Bum Suk, leader of the more militant union federation, predicted labour troubles. He told a rally that unions had insisted on the dominant chaebol conglomerates being broken up and family control ended as a quid pro quo for job cuts.

Over the weekend, fears of a year-end cash squeeze were highlighted by the collapse of the construction-based Chong Gu Group, Korea's 45th-largest conglomerate, with debts of $520 million.

Banks are calling in loans after advice from the IMF that weak banks should be allowed to fail and advice from their own Government that they should meet Bank of International Settlement capital ratios to survive. In Tokyo, by contrast, Mr Sakakibara said it had been a mistake for Japan to let the Hokkaido Takushoku Bank collapse and that no further big financial institutions should be allowed to fail.

☐ Dai Xianglong, Governor of China's central bank, said China faced "a serious threat from financial risk" if banks did not stem the tide of bad debts. The system may be reformed to take local, small-scale lending away from national banks.



RICHARD POHLE

Window shopping: a passerby checks out Burton's sale at its menswear store in Tottenham Court Road, central London, yesterday

Stock market ready for rogues

BY CARL MORTISHED

THE Stock Exchange will be on the prowl this week for rogue share dealing. Its senior executives fear that traders and fund managers could exploit thin holiday business to manipulate individual share prices or move the FTSE 100 index in their favour at the year end.

The exchange has already set in place special measures for New Year's Eve, including closing the market 20 minutes early and the setting aside of anomalous closing prices, in an attempt to prevent manipulation of the index.

Fund managers fear that traders could exploit weak volumes in the dog days at the end of the 1997 market in an effort to drive down prices. JP Morgan, the US investment bank, was forced to pay a record fine last month after its traders were found to have manipulated the FTSE 100, driving it down 38 points only minutes before closing. The traders were believed to have placed orders for SmithKline Beecham and Glaxo Wellcome at well below the market price during a period of thin volume at the end of the day.

The value of the FTSE 100 index and its blue chip constituents at close of play on December 31 will be crucial as a portfolio benchmark, playing an important role in determining performance-related bonuses.

However, some traders may seek to move the index by buying or selling leading shares to achieve a profit from financial futures contracts — bets taken against the level of the index.

The Stock Exchange's new order-driven trading system, Sets, has been blamed for making life easier for those seeking to manipulate share prices.

Lack of enthusiasm for Sets among market-makers has meant that volumes in the system are low early and late in the day, leaving a window open for rogue traders to put through orders at silly prices.

Retailers look on bright side

RETAILERS were hoping yesterday that a last-minute rush to the sales would empty their groaning shelves. Early indications in December showed a poor turnout by Christmas shoppers, but business was more brisk in the three days prior to the holiday.

Leading high street names have yet to report the net result. However, the guarded optimism being expressed yesterday over the post-Christmas sales appears to reflect a determination to view their fills as half full rather than half empty.

B&Q expansion to create 1,500 jobs

BY CARL MORTISHED

B&Q, the do-it-yourself chain, plans to increase the pressure on its rivals next year with the creation of six new warehouse stores.

Part of the Kingfisher group, B&Q said yesterday that its 1998 programme of store openings and refurbishments would lead to the creation of 1,500 jobs.

Most of the new employees will staff six B&Q warehouses. Three are already scheduled to open in Warrington, Stockport and Birmingham. A further three sites are to be announced later in the year.

The new stores will typically have floorspace totalling 150,000 sq ft and boast a staff of 250. B&Q said yesterday that the opening programme means that the company is already scouting for an extra 250 people for store management positions. A spokesman said that two thirds of the 1,500 jobs to be created would be full-time positions.

Martin Toogood, the managing director of B&Q, said that he was confident that the new warehouses would provide growth. However, he also said: "We know market conditions are going to be tougher next year."

B&Q has the largest share of the DIY market, with 17 per cent of sales across its 282 stores, which together made profits of £97 million last year.

Presentation hailed as key to success

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

HOW you show what you know is more important than what you know and who you know, according to the Aziz Corporation, a communications specialist.

The company surveyed 200 directors from companies employing more than 100 staff about their views on the importance of presentation skills. Directors surveyed included those in finance, as well as marketing and sales.

Sixty-three per cent said that presentation skills were important for success, while knowing the right people, intelligence and financial aptitude were considered important by 44 per cent, 41 per cent and 31 per cent respectively.

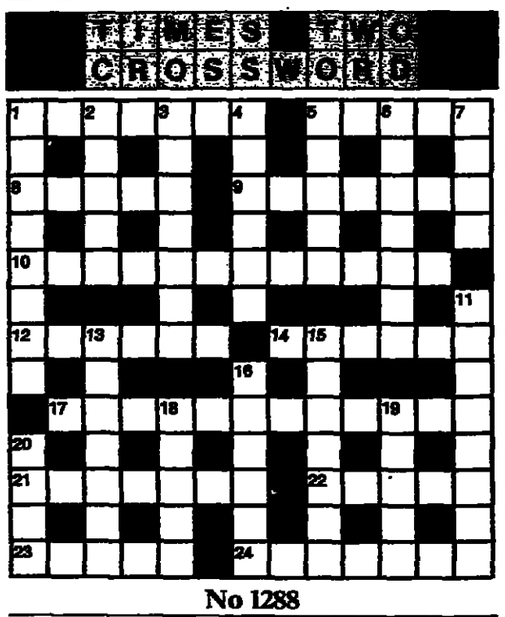
More than a third said that poor presentation skills had slowed down the progress of their careers, while slightly less than a third felt that not getting on with superiors or not knowing the right people had hindered progress.

Two thirds of those surveyed said that getting on with colleagues was important to career development.

More than half, 56 per cent, said image and smart dress had helped in the course of their career, while 50 per cent felt that image was important for a successful career.

Khalid Aziz, chairman, said: "Effective presentation skills can inspire confidence and reinforce good ideas."

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1288

ACROSS
1 Keep up; bear (7)
5 Burn with water (5)
8 Critical; intelligent (5)
9 Chest armour (7)
10 Be put overboard (by pirate) (4,3,5)
12 Live, dwell (6)
14 Lack of interest (6)
17 We're ready for launch (3,7,2)
21 Style of cookery (7)
22 False gods (5)
23 Casing of egg, of mollusc (5)
24 Burial mound (7)

DOWN
1 Doughty (8)
2 Skeleton of head (5)
3 Gave (criminal) assistance (7)
4 An element; US coin (6)
5 Aptitude; facility (5)
6 Versus (7)
7 Satellite aerial; course of food (4)
11 (Plot) summary (8)
13 Diagonal cross on flag (7)
15 Insurance policy payment (7)
16 Appearance; outlook (6)
18 Sound of bagpipes (5)
19 Bad-tempered expression (5)
20 Frozen sweets (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1287
ACROSS: 1 Jet lag 5 Waving 8 Kilt 9 Business 10 Mothball 12 Styx 13 Zealot 15 Zenith 17 Quiz 19 Rebuttal 21 Harridan 23 Exam 24 Jersey 25 Stifle
DOWN: 2 Episode 3 Latch 4 Gibraltar 5 Was 6 Venison 7 Nasty 11 Lazybones 14 Lazarus 16 Travail 18 Ukase 20 Trevi 22 Dry

SOLUTION TO THE BOXING DAY TIMES TWO JUMBO
ACROSS: 1 The Crown of St. Stephen 11 Discord 15 Wooed 16 Leering 17 Timon of Athens 18 Rebound 19 Oxidisation 20 All over 21 Satirising 22 Simple-mindedness 25 Minx 26 Congregate 27 Payphone 32 Sweetmeat 33 Cat's-eye 34 Spun sugar 35 Repair 37 Inhalant 39 Humidifying 41 Comme il faut 42 Straight 43 Battle 45 Racehorse 46 Athwart 48 Notorious 50 Cross-ply 52 Lorna Doone 53 Tend 57 Overgeneralising 60 Schismatic 63 Laertes 64 Gesticulate 66 Garment 67 Approximation 68 In petto 69 Skimp 70 Kennedy 71 Hard cases make bad law.

DOWN: 1 Towards 2 Exorbitance 3 Red Guard 4 Well-disposed 5 Ode to a Nightingale 6 Spirit 7 Significant 8 Extra 9 Henline 10 Nogentity 11 Defraud 12 Settled one's affairs 13 Overview 14 Distrust 23 Presenter 24 Merchant navy 25 Misericord 27 Pre-Christian 28 Hounds 29 Strike the right note 30 Ageist 31 Progressed 34 Symphony orchestra 36 Pumice 38 Aeschylus 40 Flares 44 Standing joke 47 Aeronautics 49 Over the hill 51 Paragraph 54 Woolsack 55 Peter Pan 56 Ambrosia 58 Nastily 59 Lustier 61 Cat's-paw 62 Pampas 65 Ionic.

Maxwell's silver anniversary

BY JON ASHWORTH



Brian Stein at his new restaurant, Navajo Joe

BRIAN STEIN, founder of the Maxwell Group, is celebrating 25 years in the London restaurant business with the launch of his latest venue, Navajo Joe, in Covent Garden.

Mr Stein, 52, who was born in Johannesburg and came to the UK in the 1960s, began his working life in London as a fashion photographer. However, he found it impossible to get "a decent hamburger or American cocktail" in London and he hankered after the American-style burger bars that had been all the rage in South Africa.

While his friend, Peter Morton, went on to open the original Hard Rock Café with Isaac Tigrett, Mr Stein opened Maxwell's Restaurant, inspired by the Beatles' song, Maxwell's Silver Hammer. Based in Hampstead, north London, Maxwell's was at the time London's largest themed restaurant, serving up to 1,000 people a night and featuring a 30ft cocktail bar and a 15ft replica of the Piccadilly Coca-Cola sign.

Further restaurants under the Maxwell's banner were to follow, although Mr Stein stuck to London and Oxford for simplicity. The group came to embrace a number of brands, ranging from PJs to Cactus Blue in South Kensington, and The Roadhouse in Covent Garden, which features live bands. More openings are planned.

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